

16th Dec 2008

BOURNEMOUTH THRESHOLD DIALOGUE

Where everyone learns
but nobody teaches

COMMUNITY DIALOGUE: BOURNEMOUTH

Tuesdays 6:15 – 7:45pm 43 Oxford Road, B'mouth

Housing and anti-social behaviour

Participants: 4 Offenders, 2 Police, 1 B'mouth Council, 1 BCHA, 3 Agency

LEARNINGS

"I've been here since I was 15 and no-one has helped me move into accommodation. I've had to do everything off my own back."

(Ex-offender)

"There are hundreds of people on the Council's waiting list and houses are allocated based on need, but you're not going to get housed whilst you're drinking and using drugs."

(Agency)

"Why aren't there consistent rules at the night shelter? I've been banned before for 3 months for using whilst other people are only banned for 2 weeks for overdosing."

(Ex-offender)

Housing is difficult for people drinking or using Class A drugs.

We all have people who inspire us.

"I'm sleeping under a bridge because I've been banned from the night shelter but I've been told that I'm next on the list for housing and should have something in the next few days."

(Ex-offender)

There are proper channels for complaints and if you use them things can change.

"I came to the UK from abroad with only a duffle bag of clothes and £300. I started in a bed-sit and had to work my way up. If you want to achieve your goals you need to work at it."

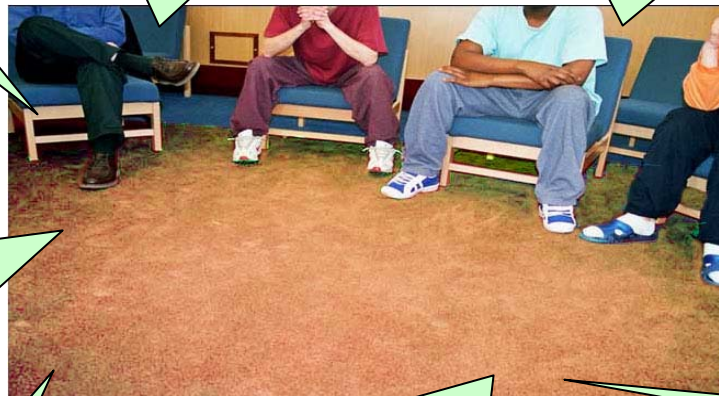
(Agency)

"You might think that you are ready for your own accommodation, but when you're using Class A drugs you can lose your flat because of anti-social behaviour."

(Agency)

"Your name has been raised because of your anti-social behaviour in the past. Although this has got better recently, if it gets worse again it might result in an ASBO."

(Agency)



Bournemouth Threshold Dialogue brings Bournemouth offenders together in open conversation with the agencies responsible for their supervision and support. Dialogues are themed on the issues affecting re-offending. The process starts in custody and continues post-release in the community, emphasising support, challenge, responsibility and early intervention. Threshold Dialogue is supported by Bournemouth Safer and Stronger Communities Partnership.