

17<sup>th</sup> Feb 2009

# BOURNEMOUTH THRESHOLD DIALOGUE

Where everyone learns  
but nobody teaches

COMMUNITY DIALOGUE: BOURNEMOUTH

Tuesdays 6:15 – 7:45pm BCHA, St Swithuns House

## Moving On

Participants: 2 Offenders, 1 Police & 1 B'mouth Council

LEARNINGS

"I want to move on, I've got clean, my own flat, I'm volunteering and have done loads of courses recently, but its still difficult to get into paid work, where I can afford the rent on my flat."

(Ex-offender)

"I don't understand why drug treatment is different in every prison, when so many offenders have drug or alcohol problems. Why don't they have compulsory treatment in all prisons?"

(Ex-offender)

"I've spent over 10 years in prison, the longer you're there the easier it gets. The only scary bit was being released when you had no home to go to."

(Ex-offender)

You need to accept support when it's offered.

Getting back into paid work can be difficult and take time.

Prison doesn't deter people from committing crime if they have nothing to lose.

"Some employers have got a lot better and more understanding of people with offences in their past, particularly if it was down to an addiction and you've been in recovery for some time. You need to be honest when you go for a job and let them know the situation."

(Agency)

"When I came out of prison, I was in and out of treatment, getting clean, relapsing, getting clean again. But I built up a good relationship with my Probation worker and she supported me through it."

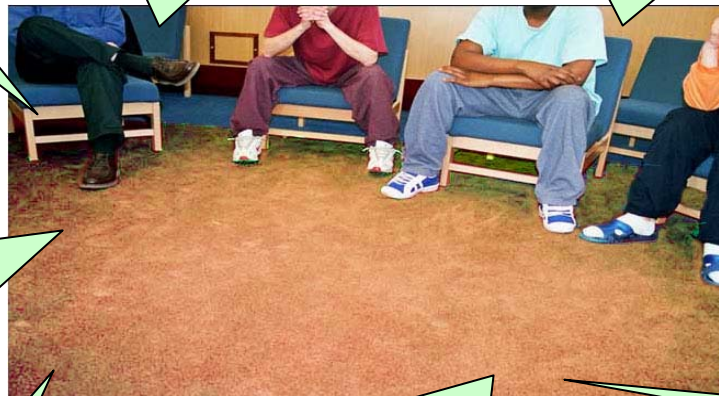
(Ex-offender)

"With me it was the Pier project that helped, before that I'd only ever seen the Police as the enemy. My experiences with them only ever ended with me in jail. But the Pier project was different and I still get some support there when I need it."

(Ex-offender)

"Even once I'd given up the drugs, I was still involved in criminality, but I came to realise that I needed to be completely free from that if I wanted to move on with my life."

(Ex-offender)



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.