

14<sup>th</sup> May 2009

# BOURNEMOUTH THRESHOLD DIALOGUE

Where everyone learns  
but nobody teaches

COMMUNITY DIALOGUE: BOURNEMOUTH

Thursdays 2pm – 3.30pm BCHA, St Paul's

## A great first session at St Paul's Night Shelter

Resettlement Pathway: Drugs & Alcohol / Attitudes, Thinking & Behaviour

Participants: 6 Ex-offenders, 1 Police, 1 B'mouth Council, 4 BCHA, 1 DIP, 1 PD

### LEARNINGS

"Why do you need a local connection to access drug services as well as accommodation? I think you should be able to get help when you ask for it. I'm trying my best and getting worse."  
(Service User)

"10 yrs ago everyone was coming down to B'mouth for treatment – it couldn't continue, it overstretched resources. They almost stopped funding anything. Instead they introduced the local connection policy – so you're lucky really, you could have had nothing."  
(Service User)

"Naltraxone doesn't work. Consider speaking to your worker and discuss gaining some structure, and attend groups. Only you can keep yourself clean by keeping yourself busy."  
(Agency)

Listening is important for good dialogue – as well as talking

All agencies take racism and other hate crimes extremely seriously and will act if they are reported

Despite our differences we've all had something to say

"There are loads of services in Bournemouth. There are more than 200 Fellowship meetings – there is help available if you really want it."  
(Service User)

"You should be grateful for the night shelter. I would have died without the support of St Paul's"  
(Service User)

"I didn't turn up for a Job Seekers Allowance appointment and all my benefits were stopped. I lost my bed at the night shelter and now live in a tent."  
(Service User)

"You're a young woman – you have to think about your personal safety."  
(Service User)

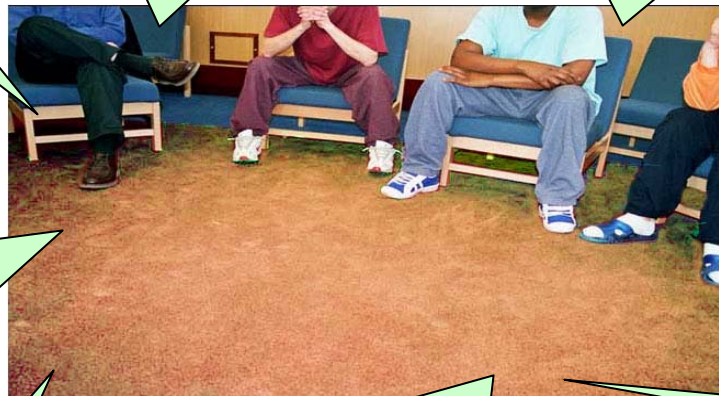
"I'm horrified that has happened to you."  
(Agency)

"There are a few of us in the same situation. We look out for each other. I enjoy the freedom and having no restrictions."  
(Service User)

"I constantly experience racial abuse. The other day I was walking along and someone shouted out of a car 'Oy Bin Laden'.  
(Service User)

"If you experience any harassment within St Paul's, the staff need to be informed. We take these incidents very seriously and do act."  
(BCHA)

"... get the registration number and report it to the police."  
(Police)



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.