

30th July 2009

BOURNEMOUTH THRESHOLD DIALOGUE

Where everyone learns
but nobody teaches

COMMUNITY DIALOGUE: BOURNEMOUTH

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

Don't give up. Circumstances can, and do, change

Resettlement Pathway: Accom / Attitudes, Thinking & Behaviour

Participants: 6 Service Users, 3 Police, 2 BCHA, 1 Agency

LEARNINGS

"I got out in December but can't get a local connection. All my family live in B'mouth, but have only been here 4.5 years, apparently that's not long enough." (Service User)

"The time required is 5 years. Street Services don't make the decisions, we can only make a case for you if we see you regularly." (Agency)

"I've engaged and been to Street Services loads of times. I sleep where I can't be seen, especially after what happened to my friend Ralph." (Service User)

"Come in and see me weekly, we can look at building a case, I will also speak to your Footprints worker." (Agency)

"If you come to Dialogue each week, you could also be engaging with Street Services. Then we can all see how it progresses. We could also ask someone from the housing team to attend subsequent meetings." (Agency)

Learn from the past. Look to the future.

Stick with it and you can turn things around.

Sometimes you need to play the game. Engaging is better than avoiding.

"It's important to try and forget how you have been treated in the past. It may well have been unfair, but if things are looking promising you need to draw a line in the sand and move forward." (Agency)



"I have been known around here for years. In the past I have caused problems and threw chairs at staff and everything. I recently got out of prison and am trying to sort myself out. I've knocked crack and heroin on the head and I've cut down on my drinking. With the help of St Paul's staff I've got housed." (Service User)

"I have also got my own place. I have learned from the past and I'm going to keep on top of bills and rent and make a success of this." (Service User)

"Why do the police move us on from shop doorways at 7am!! I end up sleeping on a park bench in the town centre. Surely that is worse for the image of the town?" (Service User)

"We have been moving people on like this for years. Shop staff don't like stepping over people when they arrive at work." (Agency)

"The police contact Street Services and we try to engage with you." (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.