

18<sup>th</sup> Aug 2009

# BOURNEMOUTH THRESHOLD DIALOGUE

Where everyone learns  
but nobody teaches

PRISON DIALOGUE: HMP DORCHESTER

I'm worried about what will happen when I leave here

Tuesdays 2 – 3:30pm Chapel

Resettlement Pathway: Accom / Attitudes, Thinking & Behaviour

Participants: 14 Offenders, 1 Prison Staff, 1 Police & 1 BCHA

LEARNINGS

"I come from the Southampton area and don't wish to return there on my release. I know too many people and envisage a swift return here if I can't re-settle elsewhere. I'm a Mappa 2. How do I stand?"  
(Offender)

"In terms of B'mouth, you need a local connection. You need to have been in B'mouth for 6 months out of 12, 3 years out of the last 5 years or have a close relative that fits that criteria. Otherwise you won't be able to access services funded by B'mouth supporting people."  
(BCHA)

"My advice is to get in contact with your probation officer and tell them what you're thinking and the reasons behind it. Don't find yourself 4 months down the line in a fix. Be proactive, make the running and take control of the situation."  
(Prison Staff)

To stay in Bournemouth supported accommodation you must have a local connection.

Be pro-active in your dealings with outside agencies that you are involved with. Don't be a victim.

Taking responsibility and changing your life is a tough choice that brings many problems.

"I just came from rehab. I was doing really well to the point where I was given added responsibility. I don't think I was ready. Being responsible is something alien to me and I felt that pressure. I take the blame but I don't think I should have been put in that position."  
(Offender)



"They asked me to go back to treatment but the bird had already flown. I was drinking back in Bournemouth. I got arrested in a hotel kitchen making a cheese curry!"  
(Offender)

"I'm in court on Friday for 3 dwelling burglaries. I'm a bit concerned but what's the worst that can happen. I come back to prison, it's water off a duck's back. I've been in jail most of my adult life."  
(Offender)

"I get really offended by the attitudes of some prison officers. They treat you like a piece of trash the way they talk to you. There are exceptions of course but I just don't get it."  
(Offender)

"Sometimes you get told on the same day that you're moving to another prison, it's strange."  
(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.