

21<sup>st</sup> Sept 2010

# BOURNEMOUTH THRESHOLD DIALOGUE

Where everyone learns  
but nobody teaches

PRISON DIALOGUE: HMP DORCHESTER

## Prison - Is it to punish or to rehabilitate?

Tuesdays 2 – 3:30pm Chapel

Participants: 19 Offenders, 1 Prison Staff, 1 Police, 1 CRI, 1 B'mouth Council & 1 Shelter

### LEARNINGS

"I think there should be more support out there when we leave prison."

(Offender)

"There is support out there but you have to want it and there is only a certain amount."

(Offender)

"It would make more sense to pump more money into rehabilitation than prisons as they don't solve the problem."

(Offender)

The public need to be included in the process. It's a responsibility for everyone.

Change can only begin with yourself wanting to change.

Is prison really the answer?

"The government cater to the public for votes. It's the public viewpoint you need to change so they can get the government to invest more in rehabilitation. The general public don't know enough about the subject and need educating more to be able to make a more informed decision."

(Police)



"I was given lots of help when I last got out of prison but still messed up. It was my own fault. You have to want it."

(Offender)

"The help needs to be there at the exact time when you are in the right mind to want to change."

(Offender)

"Some people use the DRR as an excuse to avoid a prison sentence but they are not ready to change and end up getting punished more for breaching that."

(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.