

# Prison Threshold Dialogue (12) Cycle 2 on 25th September 07

*8 Prisoners, 1 Senior Probation Officer and 1 Prison Officer participated in the dialogue*

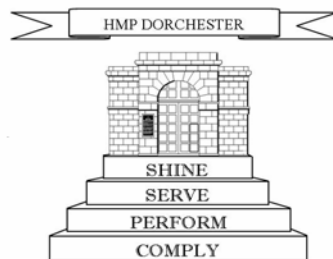
“I know guys that are calculating when to get caught shoplifting so they can come in over Christmas.” (Offender)

‘The night shelter is the night shelter. Everyone says it’s bad and it is in a way, but it’s what you need – a roof.’ (Offender)

“I still would rather be here than kipping on Bournemouth beach in the winter.” (Offender)

“It’s prison, I know it’s supposed to be cooped up. I’d like to have more to do with my time though. There’s not enough orderly jobs to go round and I’m sometimes left in my cell, seems like a lot of the day. There’s not much going on for me here that is going to help me stay out of trouble after I get released.” (Offender)

*‘I just want to get out of here and be doing my old job as a panel beater.’ (Offender)*



“As someone coming from 15 years in the job, I know lads in here that we see all the time. I feel that our relationships are good in this prison at a friendly, respectful day-to-day level. With so many people, so many things to do of a shift, you don’t often get a chance to think about the real issues that keep folks coming back time and time again. These sessions really open up what it’s all about for me. I’d like to see more regular wing staff coming to these (meetings) – it’s what the job’s all about. If we just lock people up we’re missing the point.” (Staff)

“Of course you get to know Officers that you see time and time again. I’ve seen more of some of the people in here than I’ve seen of my own family in the last decade. Not only that but they know what’s going on for me day to day.” (Offender)

‘We have a laugh here, it gets me thinking about my future in a positive way – I’ll be back for the next cycle – thanks a lot. (Offender)

*‘Thanks for today. It’s set my mind at ease a bit. I forgot it was on today because I was de-toxing when you spoke to me last week, but I’m glad you put me down for it.’ (Offender)*

**The next Prison Threshold Dialogue will take place on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup>  
October @ 2.00pm in the Chapel, HMP Dorchester**