

27th Oct 2009

BOURNEMOUTH THRESHOLD DIALOGUE

Where everyone learns
but nobody teaches

PRISON DIALOGUE: HMP DORCHESTER

Housing

Tuesdays 2 – 3:30pm Chapel

Participants: 12 Offenders, 1 Prison Staff, 3 Police & 1 B'mouth Council

LEARNINGS

"It's up to you to change and stop using housing as an obstacle to your offending behaviour."

(Offender)

"We want people to come to these meetings with the power to make the changes that we talk about week in week out."

(Offender)

"We can only offer advice and assistance if someone makes themselves intentionally homeless. This includes losing your home as a result of a prison sentence."

(Agency)

Don't let lack of housing be an obstacle to change.

Engage with existing support networks.

Work to put yourself nearer the top of the list.

"I have only a very limited stock of housing. There are certain criteria to make someone an immediate priority for housing. Mostly people leaving prison do not fall into that group. By engaging with our existing support network including accepting supported housing and hostel accommodation you can increase your chances of more permanent accommodation."

(Agency)



"I know where I am. I know where I want to get to and I know what to do to get there."

(Offender)

"I have a flat and I put up a lot of friends because they don't want to stay in stinking hostels. Unfortunately this often leads to me getting into trouble."

(Offender)

Quote 7

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.