

3<sup>rd</sup> Feb 2009

## BOURNEMOUTH THRESHOLD DIALOGUE

Where everyone learns  
but nobody teaches

PRISON DIALOGUE: HMP DORCHESTER

Tuesdays 2 – 3:30pm Chapel

Like it and lump it (or else)

Participants: 14 Offenders, 2 Police & 1 Prison Staff

LEARNINGS

"The hostel I stayed in has so many rules that take away your personal freedom. I was in my room the other evening with the door locked. One of the female staff unlocked the door and poked her head round the door without warning."  
(Offender)

"Probation needs to sit down and talk to their clients together to decide what's best, not just tell them what's going to happen or else."  
(Offender)

"There is no close communication between police and probation regarding licence conditions. We're not aware of power we have over probation decisions."  
(Police)

Change doesn't just happen. It needs to be forced.

All the agencies need to come together to make the relevant changes.

Everyone is individual and should be treated as such.

"There should be different hostels for ex-offenders that relate to their offending behaviour. The bail hostels treat us all as ex-offenders irrespective of what crime we have committed. Sex offenders are mixed with other offenders yet the rules are geared towards sex offenders."  
(Offender)



"I don't want to be labelled as a sex offender due to where I'm living. I'm worried people see me leaving the hostel and immediately think I'm a paedophile."  
(Offender)

"Probation should be involved in this dialogue here. They seem to have an important part to play."  
(Offender)

"I have invited Bournemouth probation but they won't come as it's not in their remit and their bosses won't pay them."  
(Prison Staff)

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.