

5th May 2009

BOURNEMOUTH THRESHOLD DIALOGUE

Where everyone learns
but nobody teaches

PRISON DIALOGUE: HMP DORCHESTER

Tuesdays 2 – 3:30pm Chapel

Change starts within

Resettlement Pathway: Attitudes, Thinking & Behaviour

Participants: 12 Offenders, 1 Prison Staff, 2 Police, 1 CRI, 1 BCHA, 1 B'mouth Council

LEARNINGS

"I've been let down by all the agencies. I was once bailed to a disabled toilet."

(Offender)

"You're quick to blame everyone else but what have you done yourself to change your situation."

(Offender)

"When you want help from an agency you must leave your negativity at the door. The person behind the desk is only human."

(Police)

"I know I'm alright in here, I feel good and don't even want to drink. I'm worried that when I get out, as soon as I feel the air, I will be tempted."

(Offender)

For you to change you have to really want to.

Help is out there but you can't always expect it to come to you.

"You start at the bottom of the ladder. The only way up is to take small upward steps."

(Offender)

"I'm going to leave here with everything in place to support me. I'm not leaving anything to chance. I have used my time in here positively and have a plan in place."

(Offender)

"You won't be able to benefit from the help that's being offered until you start listening to what people are saying to you."

(CRI)

"If you want to help yourself you need to make the most of the help while you are in here because it will be a lot harder out there."

(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.