

Prison Threshold Dialogue (2) Cycle 1 on 05 February 08

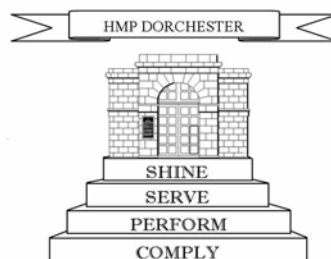
7 Prisoners and 1 from PD participated in the dialogue

'It's the thing I don't get – they're so nice and supportive, but when anything goes wrong they just pull the plug so fast – that's the time that I need the help. A slip, a relapse – not a major thing, not a bender. All of us go through it in recovery but instead of getting some structured help, we're chucked out of our accommodation and back into the craziness.' (Offender)

'I'm better off in prison. You don't have to be homeless for very long to figure that out. It's so cold out there, then you drink so you don't feel it. Then the whole merry go round starts again.'
(Offender)

'I go out of my way to be noticed, to be seen to be on the right side of the law for once. I've started only walking down main roads where I can be seen and going right past the police station. That's my way – I've got nothing to hide but they still hassle me.'
(Offender)

Theme: Relapse and housing



'Why can't beggars be choosers? They all say that but I make my choice. Even if that's buying a tent and roughing it in the woods. I can do that.' (Offender)

"Bournemouth is crazy. The police are something else here. In London you get grief of course but it's bigger – you can vanish. When I was first in rehab down here, first two days the place got a visit from CID to say 'hello, we know you're here' – I went mental. The boss of the rehab sorted it out, taught me how to be good and deal with the attention, but it threw me. You need to go: 'hey, thanks for looking out for me – I need it.' – that's the kind of attitude that works."
(Offender)

The next Prison Threshold Dialogue will take place on Tuesday 30th October @ 2.00pm in the Chapel, HMP Dorchester