

7<sup>th</sup> Sept 2010

# BOURNEMOUTH THRESHOLD DIALOGUE

Where everyone learns  
but nobody teaches

PRISON DIALOGUE: HMP DORCHESTER

## You have to start somewhere

Tuesdays 2 – 3:30pm Chapel

Resettlement Pathway: Housing

Participants: 22 Offenders, 1 Prison Staff, 1 Police, 2 YMCA, 1 Gateway, 1 PAS & 1 Footprints

### LEARNINGS

"Some offenders aren't being referred to us until 2 weeks prior to release. It doesn't give us enough time for us to sort out accommodation."

(Agency)

"I could get accommodation sorted out but close to my release probation could say it's not suitable and not let me."

(Offender)

"Unfortunately there aren't enough beds for someone to promise you a bed until nearer your time of release."

(Agency)

Accommodation is short for everyone, not just ex-offenders.

You have to take control of your own lives.

Help is out there but it is limited.

"I was told I was 1<sup>st</sup> in the queue for a bed but then found others had jumped the queue."

(Offender)



"There is so much more help around today than there was when I first left prison 10 years ago."

(Offender)

"You need to chase people up and do more yourselves rather than wait and hope for others to do it."

(Offender)

"I was given great accommodation, clean from drink and drugs but my mental problems hadn't been addressed and ended committing crime as a result."

(Offender)

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.