

9th Dec 2008

BOURNEMOUTH THRESHOLD DIALOGUE

Where everyone learns
but nobody teaches

PRISON DIALOGUE: HMP DORCHESTER

Tuesdays 2 – 3:30pm Chapel

Owning your own responsibility

Participants: 20 Offenders, 2 Police, 1 Prison Staff, 1 B'mouth Council, 1 BCHA & 1 PD

LEARNINGS

"It's all well and good us sat here talking about prison issues to people of your levels. What we need is the prison governor to attend so we can tell him what we think is wrong."
(Offender)

"I'm going to endeavour to get the governor to attend these sessions hopefully on a six weekly basis if I can so he can hear it from your mouths."
(Prison Officer)

"A lot of the time people take drugs while in prison out of boredom. It's taken just to pass the time until the end of the sentence."
(Offender)

All agencies should share responsibility in helping offenders to not re-offend.

Don't keep your views and opinions to yourself. If you don't say, people won't know.

Nothing happens overnight. The more people listen, the more chance there is of change.

"I have 20 months left on my sentence after being recalled back to prison. I could serve the rest of my sentence sticking two fingers up at the system, take drugs and do nothing to help if I wanted to and there would be nothing anyone could do me for on release. It's stupid, I could be released and things put into place now."
(Offender)



"At the end of the day we're here because we've done something wrong. If they want to send us to another prison there's nothing we can do about it."
(Offender)

"I've got to go to a Cat C prison to do a PASRO as that's what probation are asking. But the drugs there are rife. I want to stay here where it's safer."
(Offender)

"I have my issues. The other night I rang the buzzer cos I wanted to speak to Samaritans as I felt distressed. It was 2 ½ hours before I got a response."
(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.