

9 Feb 2010

BOURNEMOUTH THRESHOLD DIALOGUE

Where everyone learns
but nobody teaches

PRISON DIALOGUE: HMP DORCHESTER

Are you ready to change?..... Really?

Tuesdays 2 – 3:30pm Chapel

Resettlement Pathway:

Participants: 12 Offenders, 1 Prison Staff, 1 CRI, 2 B'mouth Council & 2 PD

LEARNINGS

"I really want to change - I've had enough of this."
(Offender)

"Probation put all these things in the way, all the conditions, that stop you from changing."
(Offender)

"It's about weighing up the consequences isn't it. If the consequences are ending up back in here, in prison, then that may lead you to want to change."
(Agency)

"I don't even know if I need to change or not."
(Offender)
"We all have issues that we need help to address as well."
(Offender)

Some circumstances support change – some circumstances stifle change.

You have to be ready to change yourself, not just expect the world to change for you.

"Some of the issues you have to address are immediate - the anger and frustration you feel because of things that have happened to you recently. You are dealing with them now in this group by talking about them and expressing your feelings - but we can't change it and don't have the information to give you an answer."
(Agency)



Agencies from Bournemouth and in this prison are working seriously to give people the opportunity to change their lives.

"Agencies in Bournemouth are working on putting together a package for you when you get released so that you have something to do from the day of release. They are coming here in a couple of weeks to talk about it. They need to know what you want or need to have in place to make sure you don't end up back in here."
(Prison Staff)

"I wouldn't want you to put anything in place for my release. I'm not ready to change - I'm too scared to change."
(Offender)

"It's good to hear that we haven't been written off by everyone."
(Offender)

"Somewhere to live, something to do, my meals and a bit of money for clothes and that, not much. I get by in here fine with what I've got. That's all I need."
(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.