

16th Feb 2010

BOURNEMOUTH THRESHOLD DIALOGUE

Where everyone learns
but nobody teaches

PRISON DIALOGUE: HMP GUYS MARSH

Tuesdays 9–10:30am Room 9

Where will I be in 5 years?

Resettlement Pathway: Accommodation

Participants: 10 Offenders, 2 Prison Staff, 1 BCHA, 1 Police

LEARNINGS

"I have somewhere to go but probation are insisting I go to one of these hostels that is full of nonces and have got a curfew. What good is that going to do me?"

(Offender)

"You must still be considered a risk and they want to help you integrate back into the community whilst keeping an eye on you. I understand your frustration but don't let it stop you getting where you want to. If you toe the line then you can end up in your own place."

(Agency)

"Why are you so concerned with other people. I'm interested in myself. There are good people in these places that really help and you can move on. I can't understand this mentality."

(Offender)

IPP sentences may be helpful in deterring re-offending when released from prison.

Change comes from within. Environment helps but is nothing without the determination to change.

Remain focused on your goal. Being distracted and taking your eye off the ball will cause you harm in the end.

"I'm on an indeterminate sentence which means I won't be released until I'm considered safe. I believe, if more people had this type of sentence then there would be less chance of them coming back to prison."

(Offender)



"I see things very black and white. With all due respect, none of these services will make the slightest bit of difference because people must want to change. If I want to stick a gun in someone's face I will."

(Offender)

"It is good for you to see things so clearly but it does not mean you are right. It's not so simple for others."

(Agency)

"The investment goes in at the wrong end. It's kids that need to be provided with activity and esteem building measures. It's not easy to change when you are older."

(Offender)

"If you knew prison staff were bringing in drugs and phones would you blow the whistle?"

(Police)

"That is a toughie. On one hand it's corruption, on the other hand, they will be in collusion with an inmate and providing a welcome service – so probably not."

(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.