

9th March 2010

BOURNEMOUTH THRESHOLD DIALOGUE

Where everyone learns
but nobody teaches

PRISON DIALOGUE: HMP GUYS MARSH

Every day is the first day....

Tuesdays 9–10:30am Room 9

Resettlement Pathway: Drugs / Alcohol / Attitudes, Thinking & Behaviour

Participants: 5 Offenders, 1 Police & 1 Prison Staff

LEARNINGS

"...once he's convicted, everyone should know who he is."
(Offender)

"Yeah, he should have a good kicking."
(Offender)

"We don't know what the real reason is [for his recall] and we should not speculate because he's entitled to a fair trial."
(Police)

"I was ten years clean with a job and family and everything then I relapsed; and bang I'm back in here!" (Offender)

"From what I've seen of addiction sincere people in recovery work at it every day of their lives."
(Police)

"...I'm glad I did get arrested because I'm getting help in here now."
(Offender)

"I was arrested, it was entrapment, I was just trying to help out another junkie who was suffering, or so I thought!"
(Offender)

Recovery from addiction is a lifetime commitment.

Ex-offenders and recovering addicts can move into meaningful employment.

Everyone is entitled to be treated fairly.

"I'm seeing my mother & daughter the day after I get out and I'm scared. The last time I saw my mum was four years ago and I was asking her for money and we had a row. She'll see the difference now."
(Offender)

"We'll offer all the support we can."
(Agency)

"Last time I got out I got off the train in Bournemouth and scored within two minutes of getting into Bournemouth and was with a thing round my arm in the toilet back at ClearSprings."
(Offender)

"It's difficult getting a job if you are an ex-addict or offender..."
(Offender)

"There's loads of drugs workers in Bournemouth that are ex-addicts and they are really good."
(Offender)

"It's difficult being in here for me because of the loss of freedom, it doesn't matter about tellies, I can be happy reading a book."
(Offender)

"It's easy; you get your meals and everything while you're in here."
(Offender)

"I used to go to prison for AA [Alcoholics Anon] and the guys would listen to me because I was an ex-offender but they wouldn't listen to the other guy, who wasn't, when he shared."
(Offender)

"There's good services in Bournemouth, if you want help you can get it."
(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.