

11<sup>th</sup> Nov 2008

## BOURNEMOUTH THRESHOLD DIALOGUE

Where everyone learns  
but nobody teaches

PRISON DIALOGUE: HMP GUYS MARSH

Tuesdays 9–10:30am ETS Room

### Taking your problems with you

Participants: 7 Offenders & 5 Others (Prison Staff, Police, B'mouth Council & PD)

#### LEARNINGS

"I'm not going abroad to commit crime. I'm going to work and keep my head down and have a good life."

(Offender)

"But if you move abroad – to Thailand or somewhere - and you commit crime, you end up in one of those dodgy jails. Imagine what that's like."

(Offender)

"Bournemouth's a funny place. It sucks you in in a bad way and you can't get away. Everybody knows me here. I've got no prospects..... When my licence is through I'm going to move away – make a fresh start."

(Offender)

We need to listen in this group and its an important life skill.

"Trouble is it's not just the place – sometimes it's you."

(Prison Staff)

"Sometimes things go wrong and when things go wrong you need people around you who know can help."

(Agency)

Sometimes you need a change of scene – sometimes you change the place but not the problems.

We do what we can for ourselves but it's not always enough – we need support too.

"I'm the only person who's detoxing from methadone. I want to leave prison clear. If I leave on methadone I know I'll end up using again. Trouble is here I can't get any of the help I know I need to address my drug use – there's no progression."

(Offender)

"When you're talking we listen to you but when we're talking you're messing about."

(Offender)

"I find it difficult to concentrate..... do I have to be here?"

(Offender)

"Trouble is they've moved the IDTS – now we can't get here 'til almost 10 and it's hardly worth it.... and I'm frustrated about that. These meetings are one of the only things available to us and I really value them."

(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.