

20th Oct 2009

BOURNEMOUTH THRESHOLD DIALOGUE

Where everyone learns
but nobody teaches

PRISON DIALOGUE: HMP GUYS MARSH

Tuesdays 9–10:30am Chapel

Times they are a changing

Resettlement Pathway: Accom / Attitudes, Thinking & Behaviour

Participants: 9 Offenders, 1 Prison Staff, 3 Police, 1 B'mouth Council, 1 Agency

LEARNINGS

"I don't need support when I get out, but probation say I need supported accommodation. If I'm in hostel with a curfew I won't be able to see my girlfriend and keep to it." (Offender)

"At Stonham, the level of support is very low. You meet your Keyworker once a week and there's no curfew." (Agency)

"When I get out I'm going into supported accommodation. I'll be going to NA too. I know myself and I need all the support I can get." (Offender)

"Protecting the community is more important for the agencies than our needs. They have to put the communities needs first and that's the way it should be." (Offender)

Knowing what's available gives you more options to consider

"The Integrated Offender Management Unit will be working with offenders to look at what sort of support they need as individuals. Obviously people won't get everything they want all the time, but with all the agencies sitting together we'll be able to have the discussions needed to put forward your points of view and take into account everyone's opinions." (Agency)

Agencies working together and with offenders should lead to improved services.

"The problem is that our needs aren't taken into consideration. It's all about the community and not about us." (Offender)

"Probation have to take into account the communities needs because if we commit crime because of something they didn't do then they're responsible for that." (Offender)

The needs of the community have to be balanced against the needs of an individual, which can be a difficult job

"I work with victims as well as offenders, so when I look at changing someone's ASBO conditions I think about what would happen if that leads to more people becoming victims because I have to face them afterwards and deal with the hurt and pain that's been caused." (Agency)



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.