

29th Sept 2009

BOURNEMOUTH THRESHOLD DIALOGUE

Where everyone learns
but nobody teaches

PRISON DIALOGUE: HMP GUYS MARSH

Has justice been served

Tuesdays 9–10:30am Chapel

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

Participants: 12 Offenders, 1 Prison Staff & 1 BCHA

LEARNINGS

"I cannot understand why judges wear wigs. It's difficult to take them seriously when wearing costume. It's hard to relate, how can they put themselves in my shoes."
(Offender)

"I felt I was not treated fairly in court, the jury were unable to come to a decision and it was getting late in the day. It was clear the jury did not want to come back the next day and it felt that that was the reason they found me guilty."
(Offender)

"On the other hand there have been times when I have got away with things when perhaps I should not have. I suppose these things even themselves out."
(Offender)

Keep looking ahead to the day when your life is your own.

Probation manage risk based on the likelihood of further offences and the risk to the public that poses.

"Trial by your peers in probably the fairest way of doing things although as we have already heard, not without its unsatisfactory elements."
(Agency)

Jurors are everyday people and can make mistakes but it is probably the fairest way of doing things.

"I'd been taking painkillers which showed up at the accommodation I was staying at in a positive drugs test as opiates. Because of that I ended up back in prison for 2 years. Later on it was proved that it wasn't from heroin but painkillers but it did not help me."
(Offender)

"You have no right to recall people for that, it's a disgrace."
(Offender)

"If you give a positive drug test and you're on licence then it's reasonable to think the risk of offending is higher and therefore greater risk to the public. You may not agree but that's how your probation officer will see things."
(Agency)

"Maybe prescribing heroin can help with keeping people out of prison. There are many people in here for that reason."
(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.