

9th December 08

BOURNEMOUTH THRESHOLD DIALOGUE

Where everyone learns
but nobody teaches

PRISON DIALOGUE: HMP GUYS MARSH

Tuesdays 9–10:30am Saxon

Making progress together

13 Participants: 7 Offenders, 2 Prison Staff, 2 Police, 1 B'mouth Council & 1 PD

LEARNINGS

"I think they will be looking at your risk factors and want you to address those. If you had housing and a job when you offended then they are not risk factors for you to offend again."

PD

"Because I'm a MAPPA I'll be put into a hostel but I want to go straight into a private flat and get a job – That's what I was doing before I came to prison and I can do it again but they won't let me."

Offender

"In some areas like Wales the housing situation is much better. They have a duty of care and give people temporary accommodation for 28 days on release whilst permanent accommodation is sorted out."

Prison Housing Officer

There is work starting on integrated offender management for people with sentences less than 12 months.

Dialogue is helping to join up the different agencies and this will improve services – it's not always about money.

"Detox in here is really difficult. I was reducing on methadone but when I was trying to detox completely there were no services or help. I was surrounded by people who were using and dealing. I was suffering but no-one even came to see if I was ok."

Offender

Offenders need someone to support them and direct them into the right services, who can work with them in prison and on release.

"We are trying to join up services and get better offender management, especially for short term offenders. There's never enough money but services are getting better... We're trying to join all of the agencies up with Threshold Dialogue."

Agency

"Why has it taken so long for the system to look at improving things. I've been a PPO for years and the support doesn't seem to have been there."

Offender

"Peer pressure – that's what they say I have to work on."

Offender

"I found it easier to listen today and concentrate on what was happening. Usually that's really difficult for me. It's about maturity."

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.