

## HMP GUYS MARSH

(Also at HMP Dorchester and in Boscombe)

# BOURNEMOUTH THRESHOLD DIALOGUE

Where everyone learns but nobody teaches

Tuesdays 9.30- 11am Saxon HMP Guys Marsh

## An invitation for you to attend the Bournemouth Threshold Dialogue

A conversation with offenders, prison staff, police, probation, drugs workers & others

## Learnings

"You've got to start getting your head in the right direction – from what you're saying now you're deep in denial – I can tell because I'm an expert at it and look where it's landed me. You can't blag a blagger."

(Offender)

"We talk about prison and the real world as though they're two separate things – I don't think they are. Prison is the real world and the steps you take in here are what will determine how successful you are when you leave."

(Prison Officer)

"Stop trying to judge me and tell me how it is or isn't. I'm not listening to you. It's (housing provider's) fault I'm back in here. If they hadn't kicked me out I'd still be out now. I should have been given more chances – it's not fair."

(Offender)

Some people get stuck in the 'revolving door' between prison and the community.

Stuck people need continuous support that will be available whether they are inside the prison or out in the community.

If you get support and challenge from other offenders as well as staff then you can work out how to change your behaviour.

"I started taking heroin when I was 12, I was injecting by 13 and hooked by 14. It's been almost 10 years of using that's gotten me to the point where I'm getting ready to put it behind me. I see people that just started out and I hope they don't have to go through what I've had to get free of the stuff."

(Offender)

"I've learned more about the job from coming to these sessions in the last year than in all my previous 17 years as a prison officer."

(Prison Officer)

"I'm just sick of arresting the same people all the time in Bournemouth Town centre. I'm here to find out about the issues and see if there's anything that can be done to help prevent this happening."

(Police)

"I've tried it before – get a nice flat, not enough, decent income, a good relationship and kids, not enough. You think those are going to be what keeps you clean, but it's still not enough. I'm hearing you talk about demons and I'm the same as you. Maybe it's time to realise that the real issues lie with me, not with all the other things."

(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.