

# Improving Partnership in the Criminal Justice System across Dorset



An Open Space event  
Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> June 2010  
The Hub, Verwood



## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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### Background

This is the executive summary of an Open Space event held in The Hub, Verwood on 8th June 2010. The event was commissioned by a multi-agency Steering Group that is currently exploring how to improve partnership working between Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) organisations and Statutory Sector agencies in the local Criminal Justice System across Dorset, Bournemouth and Poole.

The members of the Steering Group are:

Chris Beale	Chief Executive	Poole CVS
Katy Pascoe	Partnership Officer	Dorset Community Action
Laura Thompson	SW VCS Development Officer	Clinks
Michael Psaradelli	Partnership Development Officer	Dorset Probation Trust
Ruth Shearn	Communications Officer	Bournemouth CVS /Poole CVS
Sarah Woolcock	Partnership Development Officer	Dorset Probation Trust
Vivienne Aird	Chief Executive	Bournemouth CVS

The event was attended by over 50 delegates from a wide range of partner agencies. Using the Open Space process delegates created an agenda for the day in relation to the question:

*How can we make Dorset safer? What is and what isn't working – and what can we do about it?*

This provided a unique opportunity for organisations from all backgrounds to identify some of the key problems they face in their work to make Dorset safer. 28 topics were posted and discussion groups formed around each topic. The topics and the recommendations that emerged from discussion are listed in the full report of the event, which may be obtained from Laura Thompson at Clinks ([laura.thompson@clinks.org](mailto:laura.thompson@clinks.org)).

Delegates were asked at the end of the event to vote for the recommendations that they identified as their highest priorities. Individuals with an interest in supporting a particular recommendation were also asked to write their initials beside them, for later follow-up.

### Priorities for Action

After the Open Space event the Steering Group met to identify the main priorities that emerged from the Open Space event. Across the 28 topics discussed, four common themes emerged as clear priorities (in no particular order):

- Mapping services/Databases/Information sharing/Pan-Dorset Network
- The development of mentoring and peer support services
- Promotion of positive images and sharing of good practice
- Formation of a VCS consortium bid for this work to progress

### Where Next?

The Steering Group will now be exploring how best to take this work forward, especially in relation to the four key themes that have emerged from the Open Space event. However it should be emphasised that the Group is comprised of a small number of individual organisations based in Dorset, Bournemouth and Poole that are facing the same capacity and funding issues as many other organisations at this time.

These priorities therefore cannot be tackled by the Steering Group alone. If you are interested in helping the Steering Group with any of these priorities for Dorset please contact:

Katy Pascoe  
Partnership Development Officer  
Dorset Community Action

Ruth Shearn  
Communications Officer  
Bournemouth CVS and Poole CVS

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[ruth.shearn@bournemouthcvs.org.uk](mailto:ruth.shearn@bournemouthcvs.org.uk)

Similarly, if you will be taking work forward in relation to any of the other recommendations that emerged from the Open Space event, please let the Steering Group know so that we can keep all partners informed of progress.