

Beneficiaries

Clients

- a trusting relationship
- increased self-esteem
- access to and support in housing
- personal development in relationships, work prospects, addressing substance misuse

Mentors

- involvement in a worthwhile community project
- training
- personal and career development

Accommodation Providers

- support in management of tenants

Wider Community

- local people connected with other support agencies and networks
- less crime
- greater social inclusion

Supporters

The project has received funding from a variety of sources from the statutory sector and charitable trusts

Partners

Key agency links with:

Devon and Cornwall Probation Area
HM Prison Service
National Offender Management Service
Devon Partnership Trust
Exeter City Council
Safer Devon Partnership



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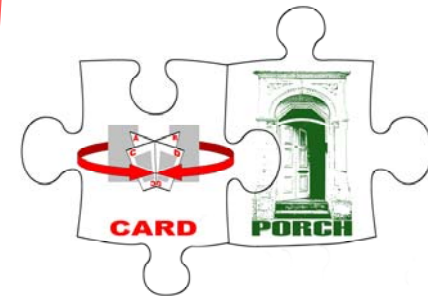
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CARD PORCH Project

'effective housing and mentoring
support to promote resettlement
and reduce re-offending'



What is the CARD PORCH Project?

CARD PORCH was formed from the merger of two separate projects to provide housing and mentoring support to promote the resettlement of prolific and other persistent offenders.

The overall purpose is to promote independence, reduce re-offending and contribute to safer communities.

Referrals come mainly from prisons, probation and the Prolific and other Priority Offenders' (PPO) Unit.

Initial contact involves a careful process of identifying needs and risk assessment. We keep in contact with clients when they are in the community and in custody.

We support a group of volunteer mentors who assist the clients to explore new ways to solve problems and get back to a non-offending lifestyle.

We work with other agencies such as probation, police and drug treatment to support clients through a broad approach to making changes in their lives. The Project is for men and women and covers Exeter, East and Mid Devon and Teignbridge.

Mentoring

Originally called CARD Project

CARD (Closing A Revolving Door) is the former name for the mentoring part of the project. Mentoring support begins with the mentoring co-ordinator making an assessment and action plan with the mentee. Initial contact seeks to resolve any initial problems to achieve a degree of stability. A volunteer mentor is then introduced to explore issues related to resettlement which are important to the mentee.

The mentoring relationship is based on confidentiality and trust. It is not about giving direction nor guidance but instead involves:

- ◇ exploring options
- ◇ looking at consequences and
- ◇ offering support when new ways of resolving problems are explored

It becomes fully effective when the client wants to make the necessary changes. The volunteer mentors are fully trained and supported throughout their involvement.



*CARD PORCH Team
members - Right*

Housing

Originally called PORCH Project

PORCH (Prolific Offender Resettlement through Co-ordinated Housing) is the former name for the housing support part of the project. The dictionary defines 'Porch' as a 'sheltered entrance'.

We take our referrals from the Devon & Cornwall Probation Service and cover the areas of Exeter, East & Mid Devon and Teignbridge. Our remit is to provide a specialist housing service placing our service users in appropriate accommodation and offering a high level of support during the initial re-settlement period.

We also offer practical support to the accommodation providers ensuring the placement goes smoothly for both the service user and the landlord and we are always looking to develop relationships with new housing providers in the area we cover.

We work very closely with other agencies within the PPO Unit such as Probation, drug and alcohol services, the police, the prison service as well as external bodies such as GPs, community mental health teams and the benefits agencies.

Our overall aim is to provide an all-round support package to our clients giving them the best chance of a successful re-settlement into the community.