



CAN A YOUNG MAN'S FAITH STOP HIM FROM RE-OFFENDING?

As part of the national development of a cross cultural programme within faith communities and the Prison Service, the Feltham Community Chaplaincy Trust was launched on 1st December at City Hall, in London to help reduce re-offending in the capital.

Christine Knott, National Offender Manager and Lord Ramsbotham, together with faith community leaders from across London and almost two hundred guests from communities, the Prison Service, and voluntary agencies, came together to promote this cutting edge multi-faith initiative recently established at Feltham Young Offenders.

This, the first Community Chaplaincy project in the UK to work with young offenders, has full support from Prisons Minister, Baroness Scotland.

“ The Community Chaplaincy initiative is a key strand to the Alliances Agenda and has my wholehearted support. The Community Chaplaincy project is one of the avenues that will be able to harness the valuable assistance of faith communities across the country, giving us the best chance of working together to reduce re-offending”.

Quote from Baroness Scotland.

The Trust is fully committed to supporting young people being released from Feltham to enable them to re-settle positively into their communities. Only by building a bridge between prison and the community can offenders really have any hope of leading a crime-free life. Many of the young offenders returning to London come from diverse faith communities and the Feltham Community Chaplaincy Trust aims to provide a vital link between prison and their return back into society.

Through working in partnership with the complex range of faith communities in London and training and supporting a wide range of volunteer be-frienders from these communities, the Trust aims to empower them in their struggle to re-integrate these young men who are living on the margins of society.