

Site

HMP Springhill

Name of project / initiative

Toastmasters Programme

Overview

Toastmasters UK and Ireland are a network of public speaking clubs around the country. They run a 6-8 week public speaking course, "Speech craft", which aims to build people's self-confidence and develop their communication and presentation skills. Springhill's local club deliver the course in the establishment for prisoners there.

At the time of writing, Springhill staff and prisoners, together with local Toastmasters, were developing a course specifically for a custodial setting, which builds on the "Speech craft" course and includes a focus on helping prisoners develop the skills required to deal with some of the many interpersonal challenges they face in a prison environment, as well as enhancing their job interview skills.

Benefits

The "Speech craft" course has been well received by prisoners who feel it has helped to improve their self-confidence and communication skills. The new prison-specific programme, will widen its impact and relevance in a custodial setting.

What's special about it?

The Governor believes that Springhill is the only prison with a programme of this sort.

Wider applicability

Any prison could run the Speech Craft course, and the new prison-specific programme. The costs are low, however it does need to be run in partnership with a local Toastmasters club.

For more information:

Contact: Industries Manager

Submitted by:

The Governor