

10 | Openness

Examples:

Kirk Lodge pioneered “fare shares for all” lunches that were able to include the local community policeman once a week, which broke down barriers and enabled relationships across the AP/community divide.

Several services now actively seek feedback from visitors as a way of finding out what the experience of visiting their service is like. This feedback forms part of their regular review of EE progress and plans.

Some Ideas:

COVID 19 specific. Keep Talking to your colleagues, whether they are able to come into work or not. Those going in need the support from those outside and those outside are desperate to give support to colleagues at work. Being both in work and outside is not easy so be open to talking to each other and supporting each other benefits everyone. Good listening ears that know the territory are a gift.

Always organise as many open day events as possible. (Difficult in COVID 19 times but local journalists would welcome and insight and an opportunity to applaud the work that prison staff are doing.)

Have a visitor’s feedback book. (COVID 19 suggestion would be to contact visitors and ask for their ideas about how to maintain social distancing on visits once they are allowed again.)

Encourage staff to keep self-development journals in some way shape or form. (COVID 19 journals are going to be extremely useful for showing how you used the EE standards to get through the crisis. A very good learning vehicle as well)

Engage and participate in as many conferences, forums or get together as possible.

Volunteer for research projects.

(COVID 19 will seem like an odd time to think about this but conference organisers are already thinking about future conferences related to the COVID 19 experience.)

The EE team is being very active to try and support you as much as possible, so check us out, call us, e-mail us with any ideas, thoughts. You can find us on Knowledge Hub where we are posting blogs, materials and ideas from the EE network.