

SUMMARY



Date considered: 23 August 2021

Sentence

1. The offender is serving an indeterminate sentence, of which the minimum term in custody was 13 years.

Test for release

2. Before it could direct release, the Board had to be satisfied that it is no longer necessary for the protection of the public that the offender should be confined.

Decision

3. The Board was satisfied on this matter, and directed release subject to licence conditions.

Reasons for decision

4. In reaching its decision, the Board considered:
 - a) the circumstances of the index offence, and any offending history;
 - b) formal risk assessments prepared on the prisoner;
 - c) the prisoner's conduct since sentence, and intentions if released;
 - d) all relevant information in the dossier; and
 - e) the evidence heard at the hearing.
5. The Board acknowledge that the social workers are in support of the offender's release at this stage. The Board concur with their views.
6. The Board are concerned about the very serious nature of the index offence. However, the offender has avoided violence in the custodial setting, has displayed a marked improvement and progression through offence-focused work and has had extensive community access through community work placements at the National Top End and more recently at the open estate and periods of home leave.
7. The Board were impressed by the manner in which the offender presented their evidence. They displayed a level of maturity and thought about their plans for community reintegration and an awareness of their risk factors and warning signs.
8. The Board would encourage the offender to utilise their pro-social support network in the community which is not available to all offenders and to make use of employment opportunities afforded to them.

SUMMARY

9. The Tribunal directed release. It considered that the licence conditions are lawful and necessary and proportionate to manage the risks posed by the offender.