

## SUMMARY



**Date considered:** 16 December 2021

### **Sentence**

1. The offender is serving an indeterminate sentence, of which the minimum term in custody was 12 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 offender;
  - c) the offender'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 had regard to the index offence, and subsequent issues encountered by the offender. It also noted the evidence of community-based social work that the risk presented was mainly to the offender themselves, rather than to others. This was consistent with the absence of use of violence in the offender's recent past.
6. The Board was persuaded that the offender wished to succeed in the community, and understood that the key to doing so was to address identified issues. They presented as realistic and motivated, demonstrated insight, and their commitment was evidenced. It was clear that their recall had provided an opportunity to reflect on past behaviours and direction for the future. Their conduct in custody since their last hearing had been excellent.
7. All parties agreed that a residential rehabilitation placement offered the best way forward for the offender. It would provide support and strengthen their relationship with those responsible for their supervision. The Board noted the work undertaken by SPS and community-based social work in reaching this point.

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8. The Board further noted that the arrangements which would be in place at release were specifically designed to help with the offender's identified issues, and to support their reintegration into the community. All professionals supported release, and the Board was of the view that it was no longer necessary for the protection of the public that the offender should remain in prison. Accordingly, release was directed on licence conditions.