Date considered: 11 February 2022

Sentence

1.   The offender is serving an extended sentence of seven years and six months, comprised of a custodial term of four years and six months and an extended period of supervision on licence of three years.

Test for release

2.   Before it could direct release, the Board had to consider whether it remains necessary for the protection of the public from serious harm that the offender should be confined.

Decision

3.   The Board was not 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 considered that the offender had come to see that engaging with available support was a critical factor in avoiding offending in the future. They confirmed that they would continue to do this in the community if released.

6.   The offender noted key risk factors, and that they had been problematic in the past. They demonstrated a realistic attitude to addressing these in the community, and had sufficient insight to acknowledge how they led to coming into conflict with the criminal justice system.

7.   The offender hoped to have the support of their supervising officer, as well as family on release. They recognised the importance of having a structure to their daily life once released. They were hopeful that they could continue to engage with supports on a voluntary basis once their sentence had expired.

8.   Both prison-based and community-based social work were supportive of release. The Board agreed that the offender's risk could be managed in the community at

this time and directed release on licence, subject to licence conditions which it considered necessary, lawful and proportionate.