

SUMMARY



Date considered: 15 July 2022

Sentence

1. The offender is serving an indeterminate sentence, of which the minimum term in custody was 15 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 offender was convicted of murder and sentenced to life imprisonment with a punishment part of 15 years. The offender does not have a lengthy history of offending but has previous convictions.
6. The offender has incurred a number of misconduct reports whilst in custody. However, during recent years their conduct within custody has been positive.
7. The offender appeared to have insight in relation to their risk factors, and was accepting of the impact and consequences of being on life licence. The offender indicated that they were willing to comply with licence conditions. The offender had a clear plan for the future including employment.
8. Although the Board acknowledges that the offender has not progressed to the Open Estate, and that there have been delays in this process, this is not related to the offender's own conduct. The Board noted that the offender had attended Community Work Placement (CWP). There were no concerns noted, and they had been offered full time employment with the company on their release. The offender has also engaged in unescorted day releases with no issues reported.
9. The Board accepted the evidence of the Prison Based Social Worker and Community Based Social Worker in support of the offender's release. In reaching this view, the Board placed weight upon their compliance with further community

SUMMARY

testing through attendance at the CWP, the offender's conduct in custody, their insight into their risk factors, and willingness to comply with licence conditions.

10. Having regard to the above factors, the Board was satisfied that it was no longer necessary for the protection of the public that the offender should continue to be confined and directed their release subject to licence conditions.