

SUMMARY



Date considered: 12 December 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 Tribunal 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 Tribunal was satisfied on this matter, and directed release subject to licence conditions.

Reasons for decision

4. In reaching its decision, the Tribunal 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 transferred to HMP Castle Huntly in October 2021. Since then they have undertaken a significant number of home leaves and days of work placement all of which have passed without incident. It is reported that the offender's attitudes and behaviours during their sentence have been extremely positive. The offender has never been the subject of any disciplinary procedures nor have they given any cause for concern.
6. The offender completed programme work during which they made significant progress and no further treatment needs were identified following completion of the identified intervention work. In evidence, the offender expressed remorse for their offending and demonstrated an insight into their risks. During home leaves the offender has developed a good professional relationship with their supervising officer and intimated an awareness of the necessity of complying with supervision and licence conditions upon release.
7. Both the prison-based and the community based social workers are supportive of the offender's release. The Board concur with their views and are satisfied that it is no longer necessary for the protection of the public that the offender remains confined in custody. The offender release is therefore directed subject to licence conditions.