

DECISION SUMMARY



Date considered: 26 April 2023

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 panel 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 panel was satisfied on this matter, and directed release subject to licence conditions.

Reasons for decision

4. In reaching its decision, the panel 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 released on licence in July 2021 and recalled to custody in April 2022. They had been charged with a further offence of which they were found not guilty after trial in July 2022. Since their recall to custody, they have engaged positively and there has been no discipline issues and they have not incurred any governor's reports.
6. The offender evidenced a good insight into what they have learned since their recall to custody and they were able to identify triggers including deterioration in their mental health. In that regard, they engaged with psychology following their recall to custody and advised the panel that they have benefited greatly from this.
7. The Community Based Social Worker (CBSW) is supportive of the offenders release. They confirmed that the majority of the offenders time in the community was positive and that they engaged well with services. The CBSW described the offender as being open and honest about some of the difficulties they had experienced in the past and that they were forthcoming about any issues which arose. There is a robust risk management plan in place for the offender. The offender has indicated that they are committed to complying with all aspects of supervision upon release and understands the importance of doing so.

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8. The offender has a limited schedule of offending with no history of violence either before or after the index offence was committed. In all of the circumstances, the panel unanimously concurs with the recommendation of the CBSW and directs the offenders release subject to the licence conditions previously intimated.