

DECISION SUMMARY



Date considered: 29 June 2023

Sentence

1. The offender is serving an extended sentence of 12 years, comprised of a custodial term of 8 years and an extended period of supervision on licence of 4 years.

Test for release

2. Before it could direct release, the panel 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 panel was not 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 panel considered the serious nature of the offender's index offences along with their significant record for violence. The panel considered the offender's assessed level of risk. The panel also note that the offender was released at their earliest date of liberation (EDL) and was subsequently recalled to custody.
6. However, since then the offender has progressed and managed their risk factors well at both the open estate and through home leaves. The panel are encouraged by the strength of the risk management plan which includes several months accommodation within suitable support services. They will be very closely monitored and supported at the accommodation services and there would be good communication links with their Supervising Officer (SO). Their extensive support package will help address any issues if they arise. Their SO can undertake any offence focused work deemed appropriate. Both community based social worker (CBSW) and prison based social worker supported release as did another CBSW in oral evidence. In considering the offender's assessed level of risk, the panel acknowledge that there is no indication of their risk factors being present imminently with regards to their risk of serious harm.

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7. The panel assessed all evidence regarding the offender's compliance, engagement and responsivity through supports and community access afforded to them. The panel considered that it was no longer necessary for the protection of the public from serious harm that the offender remains confined.