

Date considered: 01 June 2023

Sentence

1. The offender is serving an indeterminate sentence.

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 panel did not consider that the offender currently poses a substantial risk of serious harm to the public. They will be accommodated in a supported accommodation for offenders on release where any emerging risk will be picked up quickly by professionals working with him.
- 6. The panel noted the social work evidence and considered it carefully in coming to its decision. The panel also noted that the offender has been recalled to custody on a significant number of occasions and has absconded from prison.
- 7. It is very important that the offender is able to manage their emotions if they are to avoid reoffending. The panel considered that the support offered by the supported accommodation would sufficiently assist them to do this.
- 8. There is no evidence that the offender has been violent in custody. Whilst there is potential for them to cause serious harm, this is not currently imminent.
- 9. Taking into account the age at which the offender committed the index offence, their presentation during several hearings, the length of time they have been in custody and the whole circumstances of the case, the panel considered that it could direct the offender release on the licence conditions previously intimated.