

## DECISION SUMMARY



**Date considered:** 20 April 2023

### **Sentence**

1. The offender is serving an indeterminate sentence, of which the minimum term in custody was 16 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 has completed all offence focused work required of them. The offender's engagement in the programmes and their self-reflection and insight were noted by the panel. The offender accrued a number of misconduct reports during their sentence but the most recent was over seven years ago. The offender has been regularly accessing the community without incident since 2021, undertaking a community work placement and then moving on to unescorted day releases and home leaves. They have complied with temporary licence conditions throughout and reports from professionals have been positive. The Community Based Social Worker (CBSW) was confident that the offender has been open and honest with them, and there have been no issues with their compliance or engagement.
6. The information in the dossier itself was persuasive in terms of providing evidence that the offender met the test for release, but the case for release was further strengthened by the evidence of the offender themselves. The offender demonstrated remorse for their index offence, insight into their risk factors and had identified strategies for ensuring that they are not drawn back into the same negative behaviours and thought processes which led to them offending.
7. Both the Prison Based Social Worker (PBSW) and CBSW support release and there were no concerns from either witness in terms of the offender's compliance

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or the safe management of their risk. The community risk management plan has sufficient supports in place to ensure that any emergence of the offender's risk factors will be picked up. The panel, having considered all the evidence, concluded that the offender did not present a significant risk of serious harm to the public, and therefore was satisfied their continued confinement was no longer necessary. The panel directed their release with licence conditions.

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