

DECISION SUMMARY



Date considered: 21 August 2023

Sentence

1. The offender is serving an indeterminate sentence, of which the minimum term in custody was 6 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 index offence was a serious one, involving violence. There is also a significant record of previous offending which includes violence. The offender is now on their third time in the Open Estate. Over the last year, they have been of good behaviour. They have undertaken a successful work placement and have had further testing in the community, all without incident. The offender has worked on, and improved their relationship with their Community Based Social Worker and appreciates the need for honest and open communication. The professionals involved with the offender are now recommending his release. The panel agrees with the recommendation of professionals that such risk as the offender poses can be safely managed in the community. The panel agrees that it is no longer necessary for protection of the public that the offender should be confined.
6. The panel is satisfied that the licence conditions intimated are lawful, necessary and proportionate in order to manage safely such risk as the offender poses in the community.