

DECISION SUMMARY



Date considered: 29 September 2023

Sentence

1. The offender is serving an extended sentence of 15 years, comprised of a custodial term of 10 years and an extended period of supervision on licence of 5 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.

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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 had regard to the extremely serious index offending, which demonstrates that the offender is capable of causing serious and long-term harm. The panel also had regard to the circumstances which led to their recall to prison in 2017, including the fact that they were unlawfully at large for a lengthy period.
6. However, the panel noted that the offender's recent conduct has been good. They progressed to the Open Estate and have undergone a significant amount of testing through community access. This has included home leaves and a community work placement. Reports about the offender's conduct are positive, and social workers now recommend their release.
7. The offender demonstrated insight into the impact of their offending on their victims, and a motivation to engage with their supervising officer and lead a prosocial lifestyle.
8. Having regard to all of the evidence, the panel concluded that it was not necessary for the protection of the public from serious harm that the offender

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remained in prison. On that basis, the panel directed release. The panel attached robust licence conditions which should apply on the offender's release.

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