

DECISION SUMMARY



Date considered: 25 March 2024

Sentence

1. The offender is serving an indeterminate sentence, of which the minimum term in custody was 14 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 was readmitted to custody in 2019, having been in the community for a matter of weeks prior to their recall. Since their transfer to the National Top End (NTE) in 2023, the offender has settled well and there are no management concerns in terms of their behaviour or conduct. Since their arrival at the NTE, the offender has undertaken a number of special escorted leaves. There have been no recorded issues following these periods of leave.
6. The offender has responded well to their management on a [Buvidal](#) programme and there has been no suspicion from staff with regard to risk taking behaviours at this time. The offender evidenced an awareness of behaviours being associated with their risk.
7. In evidence, the offender demonstrated insight into the mistakes they made following their release from custody 5 years ago. They were able to explain their learning from the experience. The panel considers it is significant that the offender was released at a time when there was a reduction in the support available to them in the community. They have spent a significant period in custody following their recall and has had time to reflect on their conduct. The panel note that the offender understands and appreciates they require support

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upon release and is confident they will receive this support from those tasked with their management in the community.

8. In all of the circumstances, the panel unanimously agrees that the offender's release should be directed at this juncture subject to the licence conditions previously intimated.