

DECISION SUMMARY



Date considered: 08 April 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. Since the offender's last review by the Board, they have undertaken further home leaves including periods of unescorted day release all of which have passed without incident. It is the view of their Community Based Social Worker (CBSW) that the offender presented as being more communicative whilst on home leaves and showed a willingness to explore their thoughts and feelings as well as their plans for the future.
6. The offender has resided at the Open Estate for almost 12 months. Both the Prison Based Social Worker (PBSW) and CBSW are satisfied that they have provided sufficient evidence of stability in custody and in the community, compliance with temporary licence conditions and engagement with social work.
7. In their evidence to the panel, the offender demonstrated an insight into their risks and a determination to succeed in the community. They are keen to accept all supports which will be available to them upon release. Since their adverse circumstance report last year, there have been no further concerns about the offender's conduct and associations and they have complied with everything required of them. PBSW are of the view that there is no evidence of their risk factors at the present time and their periods of community access evidence an

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ability to self-manage their risks in the community and engage with supervision. As such, it is the joint recommendation of both prison and community based social work that it is no longer necessary for the protection of the public that the offender remains confined in custody.

8. The panel unanimously agrees with the views of both social workers and directs the offender's release subject to the licence conditions previously intimated.