

## DECISION SUMMARY



**Date considered:** 26 April 2024

### **Sentence**

1. The offender is serving an indeterminate sentence, of which the minimum term in custody was 10 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 progressed since their arrival at HMP Castle Huntly. There have not been any incidents of aggression, anger or violence. They are reported to abide by temporary licence conditions during periods of unescorted day release and are engaging with community based social work.
6. The offender has undertaken a significant period of unescorted day release since their arrival at the Open Estate. Their community access has passed without incident.
7. The offender has completed intervention work in custody and are confident that they are now able to regulate their emotions and decision-making. When released from custody, they will require to build on their learning from programme work and be accepting of available community supports. Thus far, they have made themselves available to social work and associated agencies.
8. Both the prison and community based social workers consider that there has been sufficient testing in the community to enable them to make a recommendation with regard to release. The panel agrees with their recommendation and considers that the legal test is met.
9. The offender's release is therefore directed subject to the licence conditions previously intimated.

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