

DECISION SUMMARY



Date considered: 07 May 2024

Sentence

1. The offender is serving an indeterminate sentence, of which the minimum term in custody was 15 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 conveyed an extremely positive attitude throughout their sentence and done everything that has been asked of them. They have undertaken a number of offence focused interventions and would appear to have put their learning into practice within the custodial and community setting. The offender has demonstrated work ethic both in closed and open conditions and has engaged well with those tasked with their management.
6. In evidence, the offender showed insight into their involvement in the index offence. It is clear that they are extremely remorseful for the death of the victim and the impact it has had on their family. Whilst the index offence was matter of the utmost gravity, it is the only incident of violence committed by the offender. From the information provided within the dossier and at the hearing, it is apparent that the offender has taken every opportunity during their sentence to address their risks.
7. Both the prison and community based social workers express confidence in the offender's openness and honesty and that they will seek their assistance in the community. As such they are both supportive of their release. The offender has done everything asked of them in custody and demonstrated in their evidence commitment to succeeding in the community without further offending.

DECISION SUMMARY

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