

## DECISION SUMMARY



**Date considered:** 14 August 2024

### **Sentence**

1. The offender is serving an indeterminate sentence, of which the minimum term in custody was 18 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's index offence was extremely serious, and has caused significant and permanent harm. They have a schedule of previous convictions.
6. The offender has now been in prison for 18 years. They have progressed to the Open Estate during that time. They have now undertaken a significant amount of community access, including a community work placement and home leaves. There do not appear to have been any major issues around this. Social workers did not support release at the point of the last review, being of the view that the offender had not been sufficiently tested. However, they are now of the view that the testing, and the offender's response to it, is such that they can be released. They described the offender's plans for their release as informed and well thought out.
7. The offender has consistently demonstrated remorse for their index offending and demonstrated some insight into how they might have avoided involvement in it. Having regard to all of the evidence, the panel is now satisfied that it is no longer necessary for the protection of the public that the offender remains in prison. The offender advised that they are aware that they will be subject to licence conditions, and that they will remain on life licence for the rest of their life.