

## DECISION SUMMARY



**Date considered:** 09 September 2024

### **Sentence**

1. The offender is serving an indeterminate sentence, of which the minimum term in custody was 5 years 6 months.

### **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 panel was mindful of the extremely serious nature of the offender's index offending, and the serious harm that they have caused to their victims. The panel are also mindful that they were previously released on licence and then recalled.
6. However, the panel had to weigh this against the progress that the offender has made. They have undertaken a significant amount of offence-focused work. They have progressed to HMP Castle Huntly, from where they have undergone testing in the community. This appears to have gone without any significant incidents. The panel considered that the offender appeared to have developed some insight into their offending and triggers. They have also built a strong relationship with the community based social worker, who supports their release. The current risk management plan is supportive of release and the panel was persuaded that it was no longer necessary for the protection of the public that the offender remains in prison. The panel noted their objections to the OLR, but they appeared to understand that they will be subject to it for the rest of their life, and liable to recall if they fail to comply with licence conditions.