

## DECISION SUMMARY



**Date considered:** 16 October 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 panel carefully noted evidence in the case. The panel considered the social workers evidence regarding the offender's assessed level of risk along with the risk management plan in place to manage their risk in the community. Both social workers recommended the offender's release. The panel accepted their evidence.
6. The panel had some concerns about the risk which the offender currently poses in the community. However, it accepted the social work evidence that this risk can be managed in the community using robust licence conditions. The panel also considered that the early intervention of professionals was a significant additional pillar of risk management in the community which will be of benefit. The panel therefore considered that this aspect of the offender's risk would be sufficiently monitored in the community.
7. The offender is a compliant prisoner who does not require any further offence focused work in custody. They have the benefit of approved accommodation in the community. They will be referred to support services in the community, with which they are motivated to engage.

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8. The offender was able to articulate their ability to understand the early warning signs of lowering mood and had sensible plans in place for seeking assistance with their mental health if they need it.
9. In all the circumstances, the panel was satisfied that the offender does not currently pose a substantial risk of serious harm which requires them to be confined. It therefore directed their release on the licence conditions previously intimated, which are lawful, necessary and proportionate to manage the risk which they pose in the community.

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