

DECISION SUMMARY



Date considered: 07 January 2025

Sentence

1. The offender is serving an indeterminate sentence, of which the minimum term in custody was 14 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. In the hearing the panel considered the offender's insight was good. They have not incurred any misconduct reports. They benefited from undertaking an offence based programme. They have undertaken a very significant number of home leaves and have spent a considerable amount of time at their community work placement. where they have received good reports. They were able to provide strong examples of when they had been able to implement prosocial thinking styles and problem solve appropriately.
6. In addition, the offender has insight into how to avoid negative peers or other problems in the community and the panel was satisfied that they would be able to identify any issues early and take appropriate action. The panel considered the offender's understanding of their licence conditions and their relationship with their supervising officer to be good. They have not been violent in custody and there is no current evidence to suggest that they would be violent in the community again. They have used their time well on home leaves to make preparations for their release, including making enquiries about gaining appropriate qualifications for work.
7. The panel agreed with the offender's solicitor that they appear to have an understanding of what will be required of them on licence. They have done well

DECISION SUMMARY

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in custody and their social workers recommend their release due to their engagement with them. In all the circumstances, the panel was satisfied that it is no longer necessary for the protection of the public that the offender remains confined. It therefore directed his release.

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