

## DECISION SUMMARY



**Date considered:** 20 January 2025

### **Sentence**

1. The offender is serving an indeterminate sentence, of which the minimum term in custody was 17 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. Although it is possible that the offender may underestimate the challenges that they face in adjusting to life in the community, the panel accepted the evidence in the dossier and at the oral hearing that the offender's risk is at a level that it is no longer necessary for them to be confined. It did not consider that there would be any particular merit in further testing at the open estate.
6. The offender appears to have a good relationship with their supervising officer. It is important that care is taken with the supervision of their licence.
7. The panel is satisfied that restrictions put in place should be adequate in the circumstances of this case. The offender indicated that they understood the importance of complying with restrictions and the need to report any inadvertent approach or communication. The panel considers that appropriate monitoring of the offender would be of assistance in the safe management of their release.
8. Accordingly, the Board directed release on licence conditions which it deemed lawful, necessary and proportionate to manage the offender's level of risk in the community.