

DECISION SUMMARY



Date considered: 16 April 2025

Sentence

1. The offender is serving an indeterminate sentence, of which the minimum term in custody was 8 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 was convicted of murder and so has demonstrated that they were capable of causing serious significant harm. The offender has been released on licence on several occasions now resulting in recall on each occasion having breached their licence conditions. The panel were in no doubt that the offender met the test for recall. The panel considered the offender's level of openness and honesty with those responsible for their supervision and management in the community.
6. When considering the legal test for immediate re-release, the panel took into account that, although the offender has undoubtedly had issues with compliance and supervision in the community, this has not resulted in any known incidences of violence or causing serious harm. The panel placed weight on the evidence of the Community Based Social Worker who was candid in their assessment of the offender's issues with respect of compliance but who was, nevertheless, of the view that their risks remain manageable in the community.
7. Taking into account all of the information available to it, the panel was satisfied that the legal test for immediate re-release on licence was met. It will be essential for the offender to avoid complacency, to make constructive use of their time, and most

DECISION SUMMARY

importantly to be open and honest with their supervising officer and other support professionals.

8. The panel directs the offender's release subject to previously intimated licence conditions which it is satisfied are necessary and proportionate to support management of the offender's risks and needs.

DECISION SUMMARY

DECISION SUMMARY

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DECISION SUMMARY