

SUMMARY



Date considered: 24 September 2021

Sentence

1. The offender is serving an indeterminate sentence, of which the minimum term in custody was 12 years.

Test for release

2. Before it could direct release, the Board 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 Board was satisfied on this matter, and directed release subject to licence conditions.

Reasons for decision

4. In reaching its decision, the Board 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 Board acknowledged that both community and prison based social work supported release at this stage. The Board agreed with their opinion.
6. The Board was concerned about the serious nature of the index offence and the recall charges for which the offender was ultimately acquitted. Whilst the Board acknowledged that there had been no concerns during the course of the offender's supervision in the community prior to the recall offence, the Board noted and attached weight to the position that alcohol had been linked to both the index and recall offences. The Board noted the offender's intention to limit alcohol consumption and accordingly deemed it necessary, proportionate and in the interests of the offender and the public that this should be addressed within the conditions of their release licence.
7. The Board noted that, based on the evidence available, the offender was more aware of the implications for them whilst in the community on life licence than they had been previously, and of the likely results of any breach of licence conditions or non-compliance with supervision.