

## SUMMARY



**Date considered:** 26 May 2022

### **Sentence**

1. The offender is serving an indeterminate sentence, of which the minimum term in custody was 13 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 noted that both prison-based and community-based social work supported the offender's release at this stage. Subsequently, a different two (senior) social workers in oral evidence concurred with their colleagues' views. The Board attached weight to the position of the four social workers and agreed with their recommendations.
6. The Board was concerned about the serious nature of the index offence. This was not the offender's first conviction for a crime of violence. The Board considered that the offender avoiding behaviour linked to that which led to the index offence would be crucial to their success and for the protection of the public. Equally important, given the nature of the index offence, were the offender's relationships and associations in the community.
7. The Board noted the way in which the offender had conducted themselves in the custodial environment. They had accrued evidence through community access, including recent home leaves, which satisfied the Board that it was no longer necessary for the protection of the public that they be confined. Accordingly it directed release on licence conditions which it deemed lawful, necessary and proportionate to manage the offender's level of risk in the community.