

SUMMARY



Date considered: 15 September 2022

Sentence

1. The offender is serving an indeterminate sentence, of which the minimum term in custody is 13 years.

Test for release

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

Reasons for decision

4. In reaching its decision, the Tribunal 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 offender's index offence they caused catastrophic and fatal harm to their victim.
6. The offender committed the index offence, the most serious of offences, whilst under the influence of substances and at a time when their life was "chaotic".
7. Prison and community based social workers provided their professional recommendations to the Tribunal in support of the offender's release at this time. Both spoke of their belief in the offender's commitment to engaging with social workers, relevant services and licence conditions on release.
8. The Tribunal found the evidence of both professional witnesses to be well considered and evidence-based.
9. The Tribunal considered that in all the circumstances, the offender now met the statutory test for release.
10. In fixing licence conditions, the Tribunal took account of the professional views of both social workers and the offender's assessed risks to the community on release