

## SUMMARY



**Date considered:** 09 November 2022

### **Sentence**

1. The offender is serving an indeterminate sentence, of which the minimum term in custody was 14 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. The offender transferred to the Open Estate in July 2021. Since then they have engaged in a substantial amount of community access including a community work placement and have undertaken a significant number of home leaves all of which have passed without incident. Overall, the offender's conduct within the custodial setting has been exemplary. Despite initial difficulties in their communication with social workers regarding any issues or concerns they may have had, the offender has worked on their communication skills since arriving at the Open Estate and it is reported that they have significantly improved.
6. In evidence the offender demonstrated an insight into their risks and in particular, the circumstances which led to the extremely tragic circumstances of the index offence for which he expressed deep remorse. The offender also conveyed a determination to succeed in the community. There is a robust risk management plan in place for the offender and it is formulated in such a way that they will be strictly monitored by all agencies involved in his management.
7. Both the prison-based and the community-based social workers are supportive of the offender's release at this juncture without concern. The panel are in agreement with the recommendations of social work and accordingly direct the offender's release subject to licence conditions.