

SUMMARY



Date considered: 23 January 2023

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 by their own admission, was unable to cope with being in the community on the last occasion when they were released. The offender advised in evidence that they were unprepared to be released and did not expect to be released from closed conditions, although they had asked for it.
6. The community-based social worker has sourced a place for them in supported accommodation.
7. This approved accommodation will provide an exceptional level of support and monitoring for the offender. They will not be permitted to leave the premises unescorted for at least a few months after their arrival. The offender will be expected to attend community meetings. Any failure in this respect will be immediately reported to their supervising officer, who can consider whether to submit a breach report to the Board. The offender will not be able to progress until they have clearly met all the markers of readiness for moving from one stage to the next.
8. In evidence, the offender was open and honest with the tribunal. They have good insight into their risk factors for reoffending. They expressed appropriate remorse and empathy for the family of their victim. They showed insight into what would happen if they were unable to do this and accepted that if they breached their

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licence again, it was likely that they would be returned to custody, perhaps for a very significant period of time.

9. Given the excellent package of support offered to the offender, the tribunal considered that it was not necessary for them to remain confined for public protection and it released them on the licence conditions previously intimated, which are lawful, necessary and proportionate to manage their risks.