

## SUMMARY



**Date considered:** 22 June 2021

### **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 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 prisoner;
  - c) the prisoner'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 and community based social work supported release. The Board concurred with their views.
6. The Board were concerned about the very serious nature of the index offence and the offender's previous record of violence. However, against this background, the offender has progressed well through the prison environment, not displayed any violence for a considerable period of time, addressed a substance misuse issue and been stabilised through their own efforts and utilising all supports, including opiate replacement therapy (ORT).
7. The prisoner presented well in evidence, displayed remorse for the index offence, appeared genuinely motivated to succeed, and was insightful to their risks and what they have to do to achieve stability in the community. The Board were satisfied from all the evidence available that it is not necessary for the protection of the public that the offender remains confined.