

SUMMARY



Date considered: 23 June 2021

Sentence

1. The offender is serving an indeterminate sentence, of which the minimum term in custody was 12 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 offender presented as understanding the issues which had brought them back into custody, and motivated to make a success of being in the community again if they were released. Their reports were positive and there were no indications of adverse issues in custody. Social workers were clear that the offender did not present a likely risk of harm to the public. There was no recent evidence of violence. Social workers were confident that, if the offender could not cope, they were unlikely to be violent and their supervising officer would be alerted to any problems very quickly and able to put the necessary supports in place.
6. The support services which the offender requires were fully operational, which would assist to resettle them in the community. Social workers considered that the offender's thinking styles had improved and that they had goals for the future which gave optimism.
7. In the all the circumstances the Tribunal agreed it was no longer necessary for the protection of the public that the offender be confined, and directed release on licence conditions which were lawful, necessary and proportionate to manage their risk.