



Parole Hearing
Under section 21(2) of the Parole Act 2002

Joseph James BRIDER

Hearing: 21 October 2021
at Christchurch Men's Prison via Video Conference from
NZPB Office, Wellington.

Members of the Board: Judge M Crosbie - Panel Convenor
Mr C Borrowes – Panel member

In attendance: [withheld] – Case manager
[withheld]

DECISION OF THE BOARD

1. Mr Brider is 35 years of age and is serving a sentence for unlawful sexual connection by rape, injury with intent to injure and abduction. The victim of his offending was [withheld].
2. Mr Brider's sentence commenced on 16 July 2014 and his parole eligibility date was 22 March 2018. His statutory release date is shortly approaching of 4 February 2022.
3. Mr Brider has seen the Board on many occasions, the last being on 15 June 2021. The Board at that time had regard to the fact he had completed the DTP, the ASTOP programme and was in receipt of a psychological report. There was a reference to the possibility of engagement at [withheld].
4. Mr Brider's current position is that he remains in the Leimon Villas self-care wing. He is classified as minimum security. He has out of wire employment at [withheld]. He received positive reports from prison staff, including the PCO attending the hearing today.
5. The Board's role is to make an assessment of an offender's risk. The Board's obligation is to not release the offender unless it is satisfied that the offender does not pose an undue risk to the safety of the community. It is trite that most offenders pose a risk. The test is whether that risk is undue. In a situation such as this, the test is often discussed in terms of whether the proposed release conditions will meet identified issues of risk.

6. As far as Mr Brider's risk is concerned, he has been assessed as high risk of violent offending and a moderately high risk of sexual offending. His victim is on the VNR. The Board has not received any submissions from the victim.
7. The Board engaged in useful conversation with Mr Brider, during which it tested his safety plan as well as matters relevant to risk. Mr Brider was able to provide the Board with several examples of potential issues involving those around him in prison. He explained in clear and convincing terms the approach that he took to ensuring there was no confrontation and to de-escalating a situation. The Board received a similar example from the PCO. All of the examples involved Mr Brider identifying an issue of concern, but then going to those in authority for support, whereupon those concerns were addressed.
8. Mr Brider was able to articulate the role of his support towards the release proposal, principally that of [withheld]. He was provided with a couple of examples of risk situations and was able to appropriately identify how he would resolve those.
9. As noted above, Mr Brider is approaching the end of his sentence. It has been a long sentence for him, justifiably so given the type of offending. What is revealing about the psychological report is that [withheld]. It is the type of offending that courts and the Parole Board often see as being causative of the offender's index offending. [withheld].
10. There is a strong suite of proposed release conditions and confirmed accommodation available through [withheld]. Mr Brider will be taken to that accommodation and provided with one-on-one support for several days. He also has the support of family, at a distance. He understands that his close support will be that of [withheld] and the Probation Officer.
11. To the extent that there was any negative aspect of the report, there was a reference to something of a lack of engagement with [withheld]. The [withheld] present at the meeting was able to assure the Board that there has now been significant engagement with them. The victim is on the VNR and there is an exclusion zone proposed that Mr Brider is aware of and accepting.
12. All in all, a considerable amount of work has been done by, and with, Mr Brider to present a comprehensive release proposal. While there is risk, it is the Board's view that the risk is not undue. One of the aspects that assists in meeting that test is that there will be, for a period, partial residential restrictions between the hours of 9 pm and 6 am. As noted above, the suite of release conditions is comprehensive. Those conditions, together with Mr Brider's presentation, the support that he has and the proximity of the release on parole to the sentence end date satisfies the Board that it is appropriate to grant his release on parole. That will occur on 10 November 2021. The special conditions will continue through to six months following his statutory release date. The residential restrictions will be for a

period of four months in total from the date of release through to the statutory release date and then extending for a period of two months after that.

13. The special conditions are:

- (1) To reside at any address approved in writing by a Probation Officer, and not move from that address unless you have the prior written approval of a Probation Officer.
- (2) To comply with the requirements of electronic monitoring and provide unimpeded access to your approved residence by a Probation Officer and/or representatives of the monitoring company for the purpose of maintaining the electronic monitoring equipment as directed by a Probation Officer.
- (3) Upon release from prison, to travel directly to the approved address and await the arrival of a Probation Officer and a representative from the monitoring company.
- (4) To submit to electronic monitoring as directed by a Probation Officer and comply with the requirements of partial residential restrictions. To remain at your approved address between the hours of 9.00pm and 06.00 am daily, unless you have the prior written approval of a Probation Officer, or as permitted by section 33(4) of the Parole Act 2002.
- (5) To comply with any tenancy agreement or rules issued by the provider of your approved accommodation.
- (6) To submit to electronic monitoring as directed by a Probation Officer in order to monitor your compliance with any conditions relating to your whereabouts.
- (7) Not to enter the West/East line from Mokau to Gisborne, intersecting Taupo, South of the Bombay Hills, Auckland as defined by a Probation Officer in writing unless you have the prior written approval of a Probation Officer.
- (8) To attend a psychological assessment and attend, participate in and complete any recommended treatment as directed by a Probation Officer.
- (9) To attend an alcohol and drug assessment, and attend, participate in and complete any treatment or counselling directed by a Probation Officer.
- (10) Not to possess, use, or consume alcohol, controlled drugs or psychoactive substances except controlled drugs prescribed for you by a health professional.
- (11) Not to have contact or otherwise associate, with any victim of your offending, [including previous offending] directly or indirectly, unless you have the prior written approval of a Probation Officer.

- (12) To disclose to a Probation Officer, at the earliest opportunity, details of any intimate relationship which commences, resumes, or terminates.
- (13) To comply with any direction made under section 29B(2)(b) of the Parole Act 2002 to attend a hearing in February at a time and place to be notified to you.
- (14) To obtain the written approval of a Probation Officer before starting or changing your position and/or place of employment (including voluntary and unpaid work).
To notify a Probation Officer if you leave your position of employment.

“Please note you may be required to undergo a drug or alcohol test and or submit to drug or alcohol monitoring.”

This decision has been issued following consideration of parole in accordance with the provisions of an epidemic management notice issued by the Government on 30 March 2020 and in accordance with section 13A of the Parole Act 2002. There has been a hearing conducted by a Panel Convenor and Board member. All of the usual material has been considered and there has been a MS Teams discussion involving the Board, the offender, the Case Manager and the Principal Corrections Officer.

Judge M Crosbie
Panel Convenor