

06 September 2021

C134621

Proactive Release – Practice Review into placement of Aaron Laurence (aka Aaron Castle)

Corrections' top priority is the safety of our communities. We have previously and continue to acknowledge that the release address that had been assessed as suitable for Aaron Laurence to reside in September 2020 should not have been approved. Having him live there posed a risk that we were not prepared to tolerate. As a result, he was directed not to live at that address and moved elsewhere to supported accommodation in October 2020.

We know that the location of people convicted for child sex offences is a concern for communities, and we work hard to balance this concern with our obligation to safely manage offenders in the community.

Where an offender is legally required to live in the community, Corrections has the responsibility to manage their compliance with any Parole Board or Court-imposed conditions, and to reintegrate and rehabilitate the offender into the community safely. Staff carry out ongoing assessments and use comprehensive risk assessment tools to identify any likelihood of further offending and risk of harm to others.

Generally, we carry out a robust process to assess the suitability of every address proposed to accommodate a person with convictions for child sex offending. A range of factors are considered, including the location of victims, proximity to places designed for children, physical factors such as shared access driveways, location of support services, and the ability to ensure a clear GPS signal at all times for electronic monitoring.

Alongside these considerations we take into account any factors present that reduce an offender's risk, for example strong pro-social support from others at the property. Where appropriate, we support offenders back into the communities they have come from to maintain connections with support people who assist them to reduce their risk of re-offending.

When assessing an address, a Senior Advisor Community Engagement and Reintegration (SA-CEAR) can inform the suitability assessment of an address for a child sex offender by conducting a thorough environmental scan of the proposed address and its surrounding neighbourhood. Through the SA-CEAR's engagement with that community, a clear understanding of risks around the placement can be reflected for the approving manager to consider.

The SA-CER will provide satellite imagery and environmental scan of the address and community to support the placement assessment, as well as a geospatial analysis and community profile (demographic information). In addition to this, physical checks of the address and surrounding area are made by Probation Officers when determining suitability of an address.

Offenders living in the community must comply with strict conditions. These can include GPS, reporting regularly to community probation, restrictions on living and working arrangements and restrictions on associating with certain people. Conditions may also be imposed to address any specific risks that the offender poses or provide support their individual needs. The offender's compliance with the conditions is closely managed by their probation officer.

Please find enclosed the proactive release of the practice review into the placement of Aaron Laurence as Appendix One. The review's appendices are attached as Appendix Two. You will note some information is withheld under the following sections of the Official information Act 1982 (OIA):

- 6(c), as the making the information available would be likely to prejudice the maintenance of the law, including the prevention, investigation, and detection of offences, and the right to a fair trial; and
- 9(2)(a), to protect the privacy of natural persons.

Corrections has considered not only Aaron Laurence's privacy rights in determining that some information should be withheld in accordance with section 9(2)(a) of the OIA, but also that of other individuals who would be affected by the release of this information. Those individuals include Aaron Laurence's support people and, importantly, the victims of his offending. In accordance with section 9(1) of the OIA we are however, releasing some of Aaron Laurence's personal information where we consider that public interest outweighs his right to privacy.

In response to the recommendations outlined on page 22 of the enclosed Practice Review, Community Corrections has made several changes and taken steps to strengthen practice, including:

- When allocating an enquiry into address suitability assessments for child sex offenders, Service Managers will liaise with Practice Leaders (staff who are responsible for the development of professional practice in probation) on a case by case basis, with clear expectations on how the assessment is to be completed, involving specialist High Risk teams as necessary, in line with the individual's risk and the complexity of their management requirements.
- Practice Leaders are continuing to develop Reflective Practice sessions, in consultation with the District Manager, to assist probation officers to learn from experience and apply insights to improve practice.
- A workshop was held in December 2020 by Wellington Community Corrections managers regarding expected processes and recordkeeping surrounding the Community Placement Suitability Assessments (CPSA), the document completed by a probation officer when considering accommodation for a child sex offender.
- The CPSA has since been re-developed and is now known as the Community Accommodation Suitability Assessment (CASA), rolled out in early 2021.

- A new process and assessment was implemented by the Chief Probation Officer in April 2021, which creates a requirement that assessments for any individuals being considered for an Extended Supervision Order (ESO) be approved by the District Manager, or regional Operations Director in cases where individual is very high risk and Intensive Monitoring is being considered.
- The District Manager and SA-CEAR have taken steps to improve District Planning Panel meetings, which determine if community notification should be carried out for individuals. These meetings involve the District Manager, Service Managers, psychologists, SA-CEAR and a Police representative. CASA and environmental scans are now considered within these meetings to ensure managers have an additional level of oversight to inform decision making in relation to the suitability of the proposed address.

I trust this information is of assistance.

Ngā mihi nui



Rachel Leota
National Commissioner



INFORMATION ACT 1982

Practice Review

Date:	05 March 2021
Prepared By:	s9(2)(a) and s9(2)(a)
Review Commissioner:	Liz Hawthorn
Subject:	Aaron Castle

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PURPOSE

1. The purpose of this practice review is to identify and analyse the current practices, procedures, and guidelines that support the assessment and decision-making in relation to the management of Mr Castle, a convicted child sex offender. Specifically, the review will consider the circumstances surrounding the placement and subsequent relocation of Mr Aaron Castle (PRN: s9(2)(a)) in the community.

OFFENDER DETAILS

s9(2)(a)

STAFF INVOLVED

Name:	Designation: (Job Titles)
s9(2)(a)	Senior Practitioner
s9(2)(a)	Senior Practitioner
s9(2)(a)	Service Manager
9(2)(a)	Assistant District Manager
9(2)(a)	Lead Service Manager
9(2)(a)	High Risk Response Manager
Gareth Fowler	District Manager
s9(2)(a)	High Risk Response Team Advisor
Coralea Easterher	Operations Director
s9(2)(a)	Senior Advisor to Regional Commissioner

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BACKGROUND

2. Mr Aaron Castle¹ was sentenced on 3 May 2013 to 12 years and nine months imprisonment with a minimum period of six and a half years imprisonment on the following convictions:
 - Made/Copied/Supplied Objectionable Publication (x18),
 - Unlawful Sexual Connection Male Under 12 (x7),
 - Does Indecent Act With/Upon Boy Under 12 (x18),
 - Does Indecent Act With/Upon Boy 12 To 16 (x2),
 - Unlawful Sexual Connection Male 12 To 16 (x8),
 - Indecent Assault on Boy Between 12 – 16 (x5),
 - Indecent Assault on Boy Under 12 (x2).
3. Between 1999 and 2007 Mr Castle sexually offended against eight male victims, aged from seven to 13 years. s6(c), s9(2)(a)
[REDACTED]
4. Mr Castle appeared before the New Zealand Parole Board (Parole Board) four times: on 14 February 2018; on 11 February 2019, and on 12 August 2019 before being granted parole for release effective 1 September 2020 at a hearing on the 18 August 2020. He was subject to parole special conditions. (Appendix 1: Parole Board decision)
5. At each hearing, the Parole Board was advised that the proposed release address was suitable for Mr Castle's release. Special release conditions to manage any identified risk were proposed. The Parole Board accepted that the release plan, which was endorsed by Community Corrections, and the proposed special conditions were together enough to manage Mr Castle's risk in the community. His release from prison on parole was directed on that basis.
6. On 1 September 2020, Mr Castle was released from prison to the approved address of s9(2)(a) [REDACTED], Wellington. His statutory release date is 28 April 2024.
7. A community notification process was discussed at a District Planning Panel (DPP) meeting on 19 August 2019 but, while it was decided that notification was to be completed, the matter was deferred until the May meeting when there would be more certainty about the likelihood of Mr Castle's potential release date.
8. The May 2020 meeting did not take place and the community notification process was not initiated. This was highlighted and addressed at a DPP meeting on 11 September 2020. As a result, steps were taken to initiate

¹ After his release in September 2020, Mr Laurence legally changed his surname to Castle. For the purpose of this report his newly assumed name of Castle will be used.

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the notification process and present the case to the Regional Commissioner, who was the approving delegate.

9. On 21 September 2020, the Regional Commissioner attended a meeting where Mr Castle's notification plan documents were reviewed. The Regional Commissioner questioned the suitability of Mr Castle's placement and requested further information. Of particular concern to the RC was the close proximity of the proposed address to parks, schools and other child-focused facilities, especially considering the population density of Newtown. s9(2)(a)

10. On 23 September 2020, the Regional Commissioner advised she would not be approving Mr Castle's current placement and instructed that alternative accommodation was to be found. She also advised that the community notification was not to go ahead as Mr Castle was being moved. Mr Castle was moved from s9(2)(a) on 9 October 2020 and was relocated to s9(2)(a)

s9(2)(a)

SCOPE OF REVIEW

12. The scope of the review is to explain the processes undertaken and decisions made with regards to the following. (Appendix 3: Terms of Reference)
- the initial assessment and approval of Mr Castle's Newtown-based accommodation;
 - the circumstances and decision that rendered Mr Castle's Newtown-based accommodation unsuitable

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METHODOLOGY/REVIEW PROCESS

13. This review was completed by s9(2)(a), Operations Performance Advisor and s9(2)(a), Practice Leader. This review covers the period from the allocation of the first parole assessment on 17 November 2017, subsequent parole assessments up to his release on 01 September 2020, and his relocation to s9(2)(a) Supported Accommodation on 9 October 2020.

14. The following checks were completed:

Analysis of all case documentation relating to Mr Castle, including:

- All file information held on the Integrated Offender Management System (IOMS) (including all reports and copies of Community Placement Suitability Assessment (CPSA) forms and the electronic system documents)
- Given the time since the allocation of the first parole assessment in 17 November 2017, and the limited amount of information found on IOMS, most information was gained from reviewing the file.

The following staff contributed to this review:

- s9(2)(a) – Senior Practitioner, Wellington Community Corrections
- s9(2)(a) – Senior Practitioner, Wellington Community Corrections
- s9(2)(a) – Service Manager, Wellington Community Corrections
- s9(2)(a) – Assistant District Manager
- s9(2)(a) – High Risk Response Team Advisor
- s9(2)(a) – Senior Advisers Community Engagement & Reintegration
- s9(2)(a) – Lead Service Manager
- s9(2)(a) – Senior Advisor to Regional Commissioner
- Coralea Easther – Operations Director

CHRONOLOGY OF EVENTS

15. On 17 November 2017, a full parole report request was received, and documents given to Service Manager (SM) s9(2)(a) for allocation. Allocations are required to be entered as a case note. This case note was not completed. The review can confirm though that the allocation was made to Probation Officer (PO) s9(2)(a).

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16. On 23 November 2017, Senior Practitioner (SP) 9(2)(a) requested and received information 9(2)(a) with regard to the proposed release address of 9(2)(a) Wellington. This check was to ensure victims were not living in or around the address proposed². 9(2)(a) response (via email) advised there was no concern within the 10km radius with the proposed address in relation to registered victims.
17. On 23 November 2017, an Electronic Monitoring Feasibility Check was requested for the proposed address. These checks are completed on site by an external service provider (Attenti) in order to confirm that any electronic monitoring equipment will function as required.
18. On 23 November 2017, a case note from 9(2)(a))³, advised the environmental scan had been provided to SP s9(2)(a) (Appendix 4: Environmental Scan)
19. On 12 January 2018, a CPSA⁴ was completed by SP s9(2)(a) It cannot be verified that this assessment was approved by a Service Manager as there was no record entered into case notes, which is a requirement. The current process requires the SM to "copy and paste" this document into IOMS⁵ case notes. The entry should also show the SM approval and rationale to support this. The Service Manager is also responsible for ensuring the SACEAR receives a copy, who then in turn saves this into a separate system tool referred to as PLAN. This action was not taken by the SM. SP s9(2)(a) advised it is her process for a hard copy of the CPSA assessment along with the completed Parole assessment to be given to her SM for approval and she saved a copy of the CPSA in her personal files. (Appendix 5: CPSA dated 12 January 2018)
20. On 18 January 2018, the parole report was completed and states that the occupants of the proposed release address are supportive of Mr Castle residing at their address. s9(2)(a)
- s9(2)(a). The VNR was checked and no

s6(c), s9(2)(a)

³ SACEAR role responsibilities include: Providing advice, planning and support for the placement/accommodation of people with high and complex needs, including the assessment of addresses in the community as part of the enhanced practice guidance and supporting and assisting District Management Teams completing community notification. Their system tool is called PLAN

⁴ This document is to be completed by the Probation Officer when considering accommodation for a child sex offender.

⁵ Integrated Offender Management System

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concerns were noted. The address was assessed as suitable as per VNR criteria. (Appendix 6: Parole Board report completed by PO s9(2)(a))

21. On 14 February 2018, Mr Castle appeared before the Parole Board. Parole was declined to allow Mr Castle time to attend the Child Sex Offender Programme. Mr Castle's next Parole Board appearance was set for February 2019. (Appendix 7: Parole Board decision dated 14 February 2018)
22. On 7 December 2018, SM 9(2)(a) assigned PO s9(2)(a) to complete a parole report for the February 2019 hearing.
23. On 14 December 2018, PO s9(2)(a) emailed s6(c), s9(2)(a) about the proposed address of 9(2)(a). The Email that came back advised there was no concern with the proposed address in relation to registered victims.
24. On 20 December 2018, a Police Request for Information (RFI) form was completed requesting information about any protection orders and callouts to the proposed address and an Environmental scan was also requested by PO s9(2)(a)
25. On 21 December 2018, a case note from 9(2)(a), advised that the Environmental Scan had been completed and provided to PO s9(2)(a) (Appendix 8: Environmental Scan dated 21 December 2018)
26. On 28 December 2018, a CPSA was completed by PO s9(2)(a) but there is no evidence that this was entered into IOMS or provided to 9(2)(a). No evidence was found to show that this document was provided to the SM, as is required, so no final approval was documented. The document had exactly the same content as the previous assessment, with the only change being the date. (Appendix 9: CPSA dated 28 December 2018)
27. On 1 January 2019, a response from Police was received by SP s9(2)(a) via email. This advised there had been no Police call outs to the proposed address, there were no Protection Orders in place nor did either occupant of the proposed address have a criminal conviction history⁶.
28. On 4 January 2019, the parole assessment was completed. There was no significant change from the prior information provided with regard to address suitability. (Appendix 10: Parole Board Report completed by s9(2)(a))
29. On 11 February 2019, Mr Castle appeared before the Parole Board. s9(2)(a) Parole was declined

⁶ This request for information is made in accordance with the provisions under the following legislation: Principle 11 of the Privacy Act 1993; (e) (iv) for the conduct of proceedings for any Court or Tribunal and Rule 11 of the Health Information Privacy Code 1994 (2d) (i) That the disclosure of the information is necessary to prevent or lessen a serious and imminent threat to public health or public safety

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and the next Parole Board date was set for August 2019. (Appendix 11: Parole Decision dated 14 February 2019)

30. On 6 June 2019, there was a case note entry, by an Administration Officer, stating that the subsequent parole assessment paperwork had been collated and handed to SM s9(2)(a) for allocation. SM s9(2)(a) allocated the report to SP s9(2)(a). No allocation case note was entered by the SM, as required.
31. On 20 June 2019, SP s9(2) completed the parole assessment and addendum to this report, which recommended and supported partial Residential Restrictions (RR)⁷ and the address was assessed as suitable for partial RR. No VNR concerns were noted and Police advised they had no concerns about the occupants at the proposed address. There were no case notes entered into IOMS that reflected when or how these enquiries were completed or by whom. No updated CPSA or environment scan was completed. Overall, the updated report was very similar in content to previous Parole Boards reports provided with the exception of the addendum. (Appendix 12: Parole Report completed by SP s9(2) dated 20 June 2019)
32. On 5 August 2019, SP s9(2) forwarded an earlier RFI (dated 20/12/2018) to police. It could not be established why this enquiry was made after the parole assessment was submitted to the NZPB in June 2019, as this is not usual practice. (Appendix 13: Police Request for Information dated 5 August 2019)
33. On 6 August 2019, the Police case manager stated, "the occupants of the address seem fine" and noted "the location is close to lots of schools and childcare facilities, but where in Wellington isn't?"
34. On 12 August 2019, Mr Castle appeared before the Parole Board. s9(2) Parole was declined, with his next appearance date set for August 2020. (Appendix 14: Parole Board decision dated 18 August 2019)

⁷ If a person is released on Parole with Residential Restrictions (RR) they are required to be electronically monitored during times specified by the New Zealand Parole Board (NZPB). As with other electronically monitored sentences, consent from the person on Parole (via an EM agreement) and the occupants (via an EM Occupants Agreement) is required, combined with an assessment of suitability of the address for the purposes of electronic monitoring. Partial RR is less restrictive and the person is only electronically monitored at days / times as specified by the NZPB. Again, the person can only leave the residence in an emergency situation or with the approval of a Probation Officer during the periods that they are subject to electronic monitoring.

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35. On 19 August 2019, a Community Corrections DPP⁸ meeting was convened and was attended by:

- s9(2)(a), SACEAR;
- Gareth Fowler, District Manager;
- s9(2)(a), Lead Service Manager;
- s9(2)(a), Psychologist;
- s9(2)(a), Police CSO Case Manager;
- s9(2)(a), Police CSO Case Manager;
- s9(2)(a), High Risk Response Team; and
- s9(2)(a), Service Manager (via phone).

36. Tabled at that meeting was the PLAN report completed by SM s9(2)(a). Decision outcomes included the community notification to be completed in relation to Mr Castle as he was considered high risk of re-offending and he had multiple victims (eight in total s9(2)(a)). (Appendix 15: PLAN report)

37. Further actions to be completed were recorded as:

- s9(2)(a), 6(c)
- Follow up with "MDT"¹⁰ and to canvass how the occupants felt about notification. Decision of Parole Board to be sent to DM and to schedule on agenda at the DPP meeting in May 2020;
- Update of planning tool to be completed by SM; and
- Review of case again in April.

38. On 10 June 2020, a subsequent parole assessment was allocated by SM s9(2)(a) to SP s9(2)(a). Again, no case note was entered.

39. On 19 June 2020, a case note about phone contact with SP s9(2)(a) by Case Manager (CM) s9(2)(a) was entered about a discussion and agreement on the special conditions to be recommended to the Parole Board. It was also noted this was for further discussion at a feasibility meeting to be held on Monday 22 June 2020.

⁸ The purpose of the panel is to make decisions

s9(2)(a)
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¹⁰ Multidisciplinary team; this usually involves key operational staff such as Case Managers, Police

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40. On 19 June 2020, an email was sent to s6(c), s9(2)(a). No concerns were noted.
41. On 22 June 2020, an email was sent by s9(2)(a), High Risk Response Team (HRRT) advisor, to SP s9(2) and CM s9(2)(a) about making an amendment to the parole special "whereabouts" condition. This related to the identification of geographical zones/areas that Mr Castle would be denied access to (e.g. area surrounding schools, playgrounds etc). It was noted that additional GPS locations were sought for Taranaki and Nelson areas s9(2)(a). This was included with the parole assessment for the August hearing. Community Enquiry for Parole was completed by SP s9(2)(a) as part of the parole assessment process. (Appendix 16: Parole Board report dated 17 August 2020).
42. On 23 July 2020, an invitation was sent to Police case managers to attend the pre-release meeting. This was declined due to staff being unavailable.
43. On 24 July 2020, a meeting was held with Mr Castle and his support people attending (referred to as a re-integration hui). The purpose of this meeting was to review Mr Castle's safety plan, identify high risk situations, triggers, coping mechanisms, and discuss the special conditions. These meetings ensure that support people and the individual have an awareness and full understanding of the situation.
44. On 18 August 2020, Mr Castle appeared before the Parole Board and he sought parole on this occasion. The Parole Board's comments were as follows:
- The risk profile remains on the high side, but he presents with a sound release plan and will be supported by people who have taken the trouble to communicate their support with the Board, and who have known him for a long time. We feel reasonably confident that this release arrangement will maintain support and surveillance of his progress on release. Parole granted. He is to be released accordingly with effect from 1 September 2020, upon the following conditions which, for the present, we will set to remain in force until 28 April 2024, which is his sentence end date. (Appendix 17: Parole board decision dated 18 August 2020)
45. On 18 August 2020, the Parole Board decision was emailed to relevant persons.
46. On 1 September 2020, Mr Castle was released to the address at 9() Wellington.
47. On 7 September 2020, it is recorded that a CPSA was provided by SP s9(2)(a) for the pending DPP meeting. The CPSA had the exact same content as the original CPSA completed by PO s9(2)(a) in 2018, except for the date being amended. (Appendix 18: CPSA completed by SP s9(2) dated 7 September 2020)

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48. On 7 September 2020, an article was posted online (Stuff) that identified Mr Castle, using his name at the time of conviction "Mr Laurence", detailing his offending, his release date and referred to him previously having an art gallery in Wellington city. SP s9(2)(a) case noted that HRRT were advised of the media article. It was noted by the review team that there had been no discussion or consideration regarding potential media attention in relation to Mr Castle's return to the community. (Appendix 19: media article)
49. On 8 September 2020, a DPP meeting was held by phone due to COVID-19 restrictions. The following people were in attendance:
- s9(2)(a), Acting District Manager;
 - s9(2)(a), Lead Service Manager;
 - s9(2)(a), Service Manager;
 - s9(2)(a), Service Manager;
 - s9(2)(a), Principal Psychologist;
 - s9(2)(a), Service Manager;
 - s9(2)(a), HRRT acting advisor; and
 - s9(2)(a), SACEAR (Chair).
50. The outcome of the meeting was that community notification was still required. It was also noted that an ESO health assessment of Mr Castle was scheduled for 28 April 2023. The other actions to be taken were that the SM was to complete a CPSA and that the SACEAR was to update the environmental scan and proceed with community notification planning.
51. In response to the assigned actions above, s9(2)(a) approached the Senior Advisor (SA) to the Regional Commissioner in regard to convening a Notification Plan meeting. The SA requested the Notification Plan documents to be provided to the Regional Commissioner (RC). The SA advised the review team that on receipt and review of the notification documents, the RC immediately expressed concern regarding the placement of Mr Castle and the suitability of the address.
52. On 11 September 2020, an updated CPSA was emailed to SM s9(2)(a) by SP s9(2)(a). It now contained photos of the proposed address and the area surrounding the address. s9(2)(a)
s9(2)(a) SP s9(2)(a) enquired of the SM whether the CPSA was required to be forwarded to HRRT given there was no ESO order in place. SM s9(2)(a) requested she canvass HRRT for their input. (Appendix 20: CPSA completed by SP s9(2) dated 10 September 2020)
53. On 14 September 2020, an updated CPSA sent through to Assistant District Manager s9(2)(a) and SACEAR s9(2)(a)
54. On 15 September 2020, an HRRT adviser sent an email to SM s9(2)(a) and SP s9(2)(a) noting that s6(c), s9(2)(a)

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s6(c), s9(2)(a)

55. Between 19 September 2020 and 24 September 2020 SP s9(2) queried where Mr Castle could live in case his address became unavailable. A previous proposed address in s9(2)(a) was investigated. However, it was unsuitable due to lack of Electronic Monitoring (EM) coverage. He also proposed an address in s9(2)(a) but again, it was considered unsuitable due to the lack of cell phone and EM coverage.

56. On 21 September 2020, a Community Notification Plan meeting was held¹¹. In attendance were:

- Paula Collins, Regional Commissioner;
- s9(2)(a), Senior Advisor to RC;
- Coralea Easter, Operations Director¹²;
- Brigid Kean, High Risk Response Team Manager;
- Rebecca Powell, General Manager Comms & Gov Services;
- s9(2)(a) - Assistant District Manager, Wellington District; and
- Gareth Fowler, District Manager, Wellington District.

57. Discussions were held about the address, notification process, media interest, s6(c), s9(2)(a) and whether it was appropriate for Mr Castle to be released in an area s9(2)(a). The RC was concerned that there was no management plan in place to address how he was going to spend his time during the day when his support people were working. There was considerable discussion about the mitigation strategies Community Probation had put in place and that they were confident those strategies adequately addressed the risk Mr Castle potentially posed to the community.

58. The RC had a differing view and did not share that same level of confidence that the list of strategies sufficiently resolved the high level of risk Mr Castle presented with. In addition to Mr Castle's high risk of re-offending, of particular concern were the large number of schools, child care centres and playgrounds in close proximity to the address, the number of children residing nearby and required to pass close by, how densely populated the area was, and the nature of s9(2)(a). The community notification was not to go ahead in the meantime.

¹¹ As per community notification process requirements

¹² Operations Director for Community Corrections, Lower North region

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59. The RC decided on 23 September 2020 that, in light of the aforementioned factors, the address was not suitable, and that Mr Castle needed to be relocated at the earliest opportunity, prompting the need to canvass further addresses for suitability.
60. Following this decision, it was subsequently discovered (via the Ministry of Education) that 62 children resided in the streets surrounding 9(2)(a) [REDACTED]
61. On 24 September 2020, an Email from DM Gareth Fowler to SM s9(2)(a) [REDACTED] (then forwarded on to SP s9(2)(a) [REDACTED] advised that, given the address has been assessed unsuitable, Mr Castle needed to relocate as soon as possible. It was decided that 9(2)(a) [REDACTED] could work in the short term to allow Mr Castle time to find suitable long-term alternative accommodation and any notification would occur prior to ensure any arrangement was suitable long term.
62. On 25 September 2020, a home visit to Mr Castle's address in Newton was conducted by SM s9(2)(a) [REDACTED] and SP s9(2)(a) [REDACTED]. Mr Castle was advised of the need to move from the Newtown address as a result of pending neighbourhood notification and the potential implications of this. It was reiterated this move was needed for his safety and that of the other occupants at the address and the wider community. It was explained that Community Probation had canvassed possible addresses he had provided as a backup (eg: s9(2)(a) [REDACTED]) and the reasons these were not suitable. Mr Castle was told about 9(2)(a) [REDACTED]. The plan was to see 9(2)(a) [REDACTED] address the following Monday and then look to move him on Tuesday or Wednesday.
63. On 2 October 20, 9(2)(a) [REDACTED] completed the assessment. SP s9(2)(a) [REDACTED] liaised with 9(2)(a) [REDACTED] following the assessment, who indicated Mr Castle would likely be accepted.
64. On 9 October 2020, Mr Castles was relocated to 9(2)(a) [REDACTED] s9(2)(a) [REDACTED]

FINDINGS

People

65. All staff involved had the necessary knowledge and capability to effectively manage child sex offenders, in relation to the role they were holding from time to time. There were no factors reported that impacted on their ability to carry out their duties.

Community Placement Suitability Assessment

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66. The CPSA came into effect on 27 March 2017. The new practice guidelines were communicated via standard staff information avenues and accessible in the Community probation practice centre. The CPSA is a tool used to guide probation officers when assessing the suitability of accommodation for CSOs and must be completed in all cases. (Appendix 21: Frontline updates)
67. There were four CPSA reports that were located for this review and were dated: 12 January 2018; 28 December 2018; 7 & 10 September 2020. The reports for 12 January and 28 December 2018 were completed by the same probation officer (PO s9(2)(a) [REDACTED]). Both reports had the same content except for a change in date and there is no evidence to show that either of these reports had been approved by a Service Manager. This is an absolute requirement as the SM is the delegated approver for such matters.
68. Further requirements are for a case note to be entered recording the completion and approval of the CPSA and that the report has been given to the SACEAR. The SACEAR is then required to load the document into the PLAN system. There is no evidence to show either of these actions were taken.
69. The review found that the level of Service Manager monitoring and oversight of the completion and subsequent approval of CPSA completed prior to Mr Castle's release, was lacking. The review was not able to locate or be provided with any physical evidence that any of the assessments completed were reviewed or approved by any of the SMs involved. This included a search for files that may have contained hard copies. However, the relevant file was not able to be located. It is acknowledged that the office was in the process of moving premises at the time of this review, therefore, the file may have been packed away.
70. It is the view of the review team that the information provided on the CPSA reports was minimal and much less than expected given the risk factors associated with Mr Castle. In particular, the following was noted:
- detail regarding the presence of children in the neighbourhood stated, "of minimal foot traffic due to it being hilly and no significant presence of children noted in neighbourhood." This could have been more detailed with dates and times the address was visited to assess the foot traffic of any person under the age of 16;
 - There had been no response from Police regarding enquiries made. The Police advice and Police Case Manager Section was blank.
 - "N/A" was put in the High-Risk Response Team advice section. The review considers this may be due to the prompts on the form stating input from this team is only necessary if someone is subject to an ESO. Given the known risks presented in this case, however,

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it was reasonably expected that this advice would be sought and noted. (Appendix 22: CPSA Template)

71. The information contained in the third CPSA (dated 7 September 2020) was identical to the previous report, with the exception of the "suitability" section being completed by SM s9(2)(a). There was a case note in IOMS and the report was provided to the SACEAR, as required. Records show this report was tabled at the DPP meeting held on 8 September 2020.

72. The CPSA dated 10 September 2020, was an updated version of prior reports and reflects better alignment with practice guidance expectations. It should be noted that this was completed after Mr Castle's release date of 1 September 2020. It contains more detailed information in general. (see again Appendix 20)

73. The review team noted the following:

- information was provided about the location of community child-purpose facilities (e.g. playgrounds, early childhood centres, parks, playgrounds and sporting facilities where those under the age of 16 may be present) in the proposed release address area. Detail was provided in relation to the physical environment of the release address, such as the type of dwelling, facilities on site, fence lines, position of Mr Castle's s9(2)(a) s9(2)(a) [REDACTED]
- Photos of the address and a view of the neighbouring properties were attached to the report;
- Information around Mr Castle's relationship with his sponsors at the address was provided and advised that they had a good understanding of Mr Castle's release conditions, criminal history and safety plan;
- Further information regarding the presence of children in the neighbourhood section included the dates and times the address was visited, by SP s9(2)(a) post-release to assess foot traffic of children. This information was not included in prior reports. It included local knowledge from a staff member who was, at the time, living in the same area of Mr Castle's release address;
- Police enquiries were sought regarding whether children were residing in or around the release address area. Police noted s9(2)(a) [REDACTED] were close to the proposed address. They also advised that there was a Facebook notification warning residents of Mr Castle's release into the area.
- High Risk Response Team section was completed with their views on the proposed address. In summary it was noted there was a lot of

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mitigating factors in place via regular third party contact with occupants, weekly home visits and ongoing monitoring of compliance with his GPS whereabouts conditions.

74. There is clear Practice guidance available to staff when assessing the suitability of an address for child sex offenders, including the completion of a CPSA. It highlights that dynamic assessment and reassessment of addresses for child sex offenders will be required on an ongoing basis. It identifies what reasonable checks are when assessing presence of children in the neighbourhood to support this section of the CPSA form being completed and the required actions for assessing a CSO address.
75. Whilst the guidance is comprehensive in providing prompts for staff when completing some sections of a CSPA, the review found there are some areas where guidance is minimal, in that there is an absence of prompts for staff to follow in providing the expected level of details/information. This means the quality of information varies and is ultimately determined acceptable by the approving authority; that being the SM in this case. (Appendix 23: Assessing the Suitability of an Address for Child Sex Offenders from Tatou)
76. The bottom of the CPSA form states "*once form is complete, relevant decision maker to copy and paste into IOMS case notes under Admin and Manager check*". This was not completed by any Service Manager for any of the pre-release assessments, which is a required action. This hinders the decision-making process and the ability to track and validate these decisions.
77. A common theme throughout all the content of the Parole Board assessments provided was the consistent reliance on the information provided in the very first CPSA and Environmental Scan that was completed back in 2018. The same information was used throughout all CPSA assessments the first amendments noted in the CPSA completed after Mr Castle was released.
78. Expected updates to the CPSA would have reflected what area canvassing and third-party contact had been done to ensure the release address remained suitable. This detail would show the days and times of the area visits to reflect different times of the day and week were assessed. The PO's involved advised they did complete the required visits to the proposed release address. However, detail provided to the review was vague and there were no case notes or documentation to verify this.

High Risk Response Team involvement

79. The HRRT adviser's role is to provide specialist expertise and work collaboratively to support the management of the highest risk and most complex offenders.

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80. HRRT involvement in Mr Castle's case prior to his release was limited, with HRRT involvement only being referenced in relation to the feasibility meeting and in emails sent to a case manager regarding Mr Castle's special conditions. Their involvement was more evident after Mr Castle was released.

81. SP s9(2)(a) advised she was aware of the Community Enquiry for Parole (CEP) practice guidance requirement that HRRT and the SM are to be involved in the feasibility meeting, given the risk factors associated with Mr Castle. A review of the meeting notes focused solely on conditions for the Parole Board report, with no reference to address suitability. It is noted that, on completing the updated CPSA, the SP was still unsure as to whether HRRT input was required as per her email to SM s9(2)(a) (Appendix 24: Email communication between SP s9(2) and SM s9(2)(a))

Victim considerations

s6(c), s9(2)(a)

83. This is of particular significance s9(2)(a)

There was no evidence to show this was factored into the suitability assessment of the proposed release address or whether potential media attention was likely and any resulting community response. s9(2)(a)

This was not validated at any stage.

84. Information requests to Police were lacking in detail and there was opportunity for Community probation to request more detailed input or provide more specific requests in relation to the surrounding addresses, victim locale, presence of children in the release address area and their thoughts around the location and access of local facilities designed to cater specifically for children. Community Probation could have also requested that Police identify a single Case Manager to support a more streamlined approach with regards to communications between the two organisations.

85. The content provided in the Parole Board assessments around suitability of the address solely referenced registered VNR suitability. Current practice guidance presents as having a narrow focus on victims, which is centric to registered victims on the VNR versus with no reference to non-registered victims. A broader focus needs to be applied on all victims of

¹³ s6(c), s9(2)(a)

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an individual's offending to minimise the likelihood of victims living in the area or the potential for victim contact in the community, by offenders.

ESO eligibility v CSO delegation for address approval

86. The assessment for eligibility to apply for an Extended Supervision Order (ESO) is defined in Section 107c (1) of the Parole Act 2002. Mr Castle had been sentenced to a determinate sentence for multiple relevant offences and with his Sentence-end date (SED) being 28 April 2024. The ESO assessment process for Mr Castle is unlikely to occur until 2023. (Appendix 25: Section 107c (1) Parole Act 2002)
87. There is clear guidance available about who has the delegated authority to approve a release address for child sex offenders. Currently delegation lies with Service Managers for those being released on Parole. However, if there is an ESO application being made, or the order has been granted, then approval is delegated to the District Manager of the region.
88. The eligibility criteria for suitable accommodation for those subject to an Extended Supervision Order state clearly that any offender subject to ESO for sexual offending is not to live with children or reside next door to children under 16 and nor are they to be placed within 500 metres of a place designed for children. (see again Appendix 23)
89. While Mr Castle was not subject to an ESO, there was a clear indication that consideration was being given to this and that he would be scheduled for assessment at a later date. As such it would have been prudent to assess his release address against the ESO criteria. Approval of proposed addresses for these cases sits with the District Manager level at the outset. In Mr Castle's case, it was clearly noted in all the CPSA completed that there were several places designed for child within the 500m distance criteria.
90. Practice guidance advises that, in cases where an otherwise suitable address does not meet this requirement, an override might be suitable, and the rationale should be provided on the CPSA for pursuing the address. The delegated approver may then endorse the override and, where necessary, escalate to the appropriate level for approval. There was no override discussion evidenced on the CSPSA form.
91. There is currently no consideration on the CPSA, or practice guidance, which instigates questions of ESO eligibility. Adding in extra checks around this would prompt Probation Officers and Service Managers to check ESO eligibility in future assessments.
92. The review found there was no escalation to more senior managers prior to the address being considered suitable. Senior managers were made aware of the address at the District Planning Panel meeting (August 2019) when Mr Castle's case was tabled for review and minutes record

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engagement with the Lead Service Manager and DM. If verbal consultations were undertaken prior to that, these were not captured via normal processes, such as case notes, or reflected on any other document.

93. It is recorded at the August 2019 DPP meeting that Mr Castle was to be assessed for an ESO, however, it is unclear whether this information was passed on to the relevant probation staff member for their consideration when completing the CPSA that forms part of the community notification process. Regardless, there is no reference made in the reports.
94. The review found that senior managers in the region team had clear expectations that if there are individuals who are on the ESO waitlist or those with a high media presence, there should be an escalation of the case, so that decisions are made at the higher level. This is not stated in current practice guidance, however, so relies on individuals to make the decision to escalate, which presents a level of subjectivity about what the trigger is for this to occur.

Community notification

95. Mr Castle's convictions for child sex offending met the departmental criteria to be considered for community notification. Mr Castle's case was scheduled for a decision to be made regarding notification at the DPP meeting on 9 August 2019. (Appendix 26: Notification eligibility criteria)
96. At this meeting, the DPP deemed it necessary for community notification to be completed and Mr Castle's case was to be rescheduled for the May 2020 meeting for updated information and planning.
97. HRRT Manager s9(2) confirmed she monitored Mr Castle's progress via IOMS and Parole Board decisions to allow time for his case to be presented at the DPP meeting in May 2020. However, he was not put before the May Panel as Manager s9(2) saw he was still engaged with the Kia Marama Graduate programme and did not think it necessary at this time.
98. The process then stalled, until Mr Castle was granted a release date at his August Parole Board hearing of 1 September 2020 triggering the notification process to be restarted and a DPP meeting to be scheduled for 8 September 2020.'
99. In preparation for this meeting, a Child Sex Offender Notification Assessment and Planning tool was completed by SM s9(2)(a). This report and a CPSA completed by SP s9(2) in 2019, was effectively just a duplication of the 2018 CPSA completed by PO s9(2)(a). No updated or current CPSA or environmental scan was presented.
100. The Assessment report highlighted the following concerns:

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- s9(2)(a) [REDACTED], however, it further noted there were no issues regarding victim proximity s6(c), s9(2)(a) [REDACTED].
- It was noted that the approved release address was in close proximity to a number of schools, childcare centres and other child-designed areas.

s9(2)(a) [REDACTED]

101. Risk mitigations highlighted in response to these concerns were recorded as:

- Mr Castle completing a rehabilitation programme;
- Stringent Parole special conditions including GPS monitoring
- Police liaison
- Active management by the assigned probation officer via weekly report ins,
- Home visits and continued interaction with Mr Castles support people in the community.

102. s9(2)(a) [REDACTED] stated that, at the time, the address had previously been approved in 2017 and 2018 and the lack of documentation did not impede the decision-making process.

103. On reflection though s9(2)(a) [REDACTED] said more emphasis should have been placed on assessing the address with supported documentation in the form of a well-developed CPSA, which would have included detailed information regarding the area, home visits that occurred, and rationales for approving the address.

104. The review was told that a former SACEAR, who was in attendance at the DPP, was familiar with the release address area s9(2) [REDACTED] and provided geographical information at the meeting relating to the mitigation of potential risks due to the close proximity of child-design areas identified. It was acknowledged by the current SACEAR that she placed too much emphasis on the address being previously assessed as suitable.

105. s9(2)(a) [REDACTED] noted changes have now been made to the scheduling of cases to the DPP when individuals reach their Parole Eligibility Date (PED), which allows for assessments regarding notification to occur prior to any address being approved. Should an individual be a candidate for

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notification, the address will be assessed at a higher level to ensure it is in line with any notification that is to occur.

106. The Ministry of Education and the Department of Corrections have a Memorandum of Understanding to ensure early-learning services and schools are notified when a CSO is due to be released in the community. Both organisations have a representative from each regional office that supports Corrections with community notification.
107. In Mr Castle's case, the agreed process was not adhered to due to a lack of planning for an early release.
108. 9(2)(a) advised the reviewers there was a good relationship with external stakeholders in the Newtown District due to work done in the area for previous notifications

New Zealand Parole Board

109. Mr Castle appeared, either in person or via counsel, four times during the period February 2018 until being granted Parole in 8 August 2020. On every occasion, s9(2)(a) 9(2)(a), Wellington was reported as being a suitable release address.
110. Conversations with all concerned parties expressed surprise he was granted parole considering the length of his sentence. This may have been a factor in delays in disseminating information to a higher authority regarding the release address, notification considerations, and the potential interest from media outlets.
111. A review of all Parole Board decisions revealed there was a focus on Mr Castle completing his rehabilitative pathway. This would be expected given the Parole Board believed there was no need to be concerned about the release address.
112. There was acknowledgement of a process gap in delegated authority for CSO address approval versus having a higher level of investigation for individuals who are to be assessed for notification and/or ESO applications and that approval needs to be completed at a higher management level.
113. The Operations Director for Community Corrections, Coralea Easter, was of the view that Mr Castle's support in the community was genuine, however, there was not the appropriate level of appreciation given to the potential media interest, which did eventuate and posed risk for both the community and to Mr Castle. OD Easter noted that there were process gaps resulting in the unfolding of events as they did, and felt that if information regarding Mr Castles proposed address and release plan was received at her level, there would have been higher level discussions at any number of the many forums which provide opportunities to discuss high profile people.

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CONCLUSIONS

114. The first Community Placement Suitability Assessment (CPSA) was completed as per process for assessing a proposed address for a child sex offender. This version was then used for subsequent re-assessments and Mr Castle's address was consequently deemed suitable up to his release date. This was despite there being significant risk factors that had not been factored into the decision-making process.
115. There was a lack of supported documentation with regard to what actions had been taken to ensure the address remained suitable at every reassessment. There were no documented decisions for the address suitability put into IOMS by the delegated Service Manager prior to Mr Castle's release, which would have supported a clear decision-making pathway to the various staff allocated this report.
116. A theme was identified that the staff who were involved in previous assessments influenced the subsequent decisions made in regard to address suitability. This led to processes not being followed as per the practice guidance.
117. The fact that Mr Castle was being considered for an ESO at the end of his sentence and that he had a high media profile was not factored into the decision-making process. This is significant in terms of where the delegation for accommodation approval sat, and whether there was involvement from HRRT.
118. There was an absence of critical thinking in assessing the suitability of Mr Castle's return to the locality where he had offended and the impact this would have on the community. s6(c), s9(2)(a)

RECOMMENDATIONS

119. It is recommended that:

a)	<i>Service managers liaise with practice leaders when allocating an enquiry into address suitability assessments for a CSO to support professional practice.</i>	Yes / No
b)	<i>The Chief Probation Officer considers CPSA guidelines and documentation are updated to include considerations of:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- ESO eligibility- Victims – s6(c), s9(2)(a)- Location of offending- Media profile	Yes / No

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - High Risk Response Team involvement - Clear expectation of details required in each section - Making the override rationale clearer an additional box should be provided for this to ensure the discussion has been clearly recorded. 	
c)	The Chief Probation Officer considers further practice guidance be made available around what information should be included in a parole assessment report in regard to CSO address suitability criteria	Yes / No
d)	The Chief Probation Officer considers providing clarification in the delegation of authority for approving addresses of those who may be considered for an ESO assessment in the future	Yes / No
e)	There is more collaboration with internal and external stakeholders to identify where offending occurred; potential placement back into the community, and unregistered victim information	Yes / No
f)	Service Managers put clear allocation notes into IOMS of expectations when allocating a CPSA or CEP for a CSO.	Yes / No
g)	Service Managers clearly document in IOMS completed CPSA, their decisions and rationale for these decisions and verification this document has been forwarded to the SACEAR	Yes / No
h)	There is a workshop or self-directed e-learning module on best practice when completing address suitability assessments for a CSO.	Yes / No
j)	There is a reminder to all staff of the value and need for all correspondence to be entered into IOMS	Yes / No
k)	The DPP meeting process should have a mandatory requirement (where applicable) to have the most recent, comprehensive CPSA and, if possible, photos and environmental scan.	Yes / No
l)	Practice guidance be issued that specifically requires Probation Officers to escalate cases where an ESO is being considered, where there is the potential for media interest in the case, and where members of the local community (eg: victims – registered and unregistered) may be negatively impacted	Yes / No
j)	This report if forwarded to the Chief Probation Officer for his consideration of recommendations b), c), and d) above.	Yes / No

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SIGN OFF

Approved (Review Commissioner)	By: 	9/3/21.	
	Liz Hawthorn	Regional Director Practice Delivery	(Date)

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Offender Board Decision Report

Hearing Date: 18-AUG-2020

Offender Name:	CASTLE, Aaron Paul	PRN/DLicNo:	s9(2)(a)
Application Type:	PAROLE - POST-PED	Attended	
Hearing Location:	ROLLESTON PRISON		
Hearing Outcome:	APPROVED		
Board Decision:			

1. Arron Paul Laurence is a 46 year old man serving a sentence of 12 years and nine months? imprisonment imposed upon him for numerous offences of unlawful sexual connection with a male aged 12 to 16 and with a male under 12, indecent assault of a boy under 12 and of a boy aged 12 to 16, and possession of objectionable publications.
2. The index offending comprises some 65 offences committed between 1999 and 2011 on several boys, some as young as eight years of age. The sentencing notes indicate that the victims were befriended and lured to the offender's home for video games, and given rewards by way of food, cigarettes, cannabis and the like. They were then abused and the results recorded on video and promulgated. He was found to be in possession of some 31,000 objectionable images.
3. Apart from the index offending, he has only two minor drug offences recorded against him.
4. He has completed the Kia Marama Child Sex Offender Programme with good engagement, this having been completed in June 2019. However, notwithstanding this intervention, he is still assessed by the psychologist as being at high risk. For this reason, he was not seeking parole when last before the Board in August of 2019, and carried on with some further work with the graduate group.
5. As he appears before the Board today, he is, through his counsel Mr Bailey, seeking parole. The risk profile remains on the high side, but he presents with a sound release plan and will be supported by people who have taken the trouble to communicate their support with the Board, and who have known him for a long time. We feel reasonably confident that this release arrangement will maintain support and surveillance of his progress on release, which justifies parole now being granted.
6. He is to be released accordingly with effect from 1 September, upon the following conditions which, for the present, we will set to remain in force until 28 April 2024, which is his sentence end date. However, once he has reached the stage of attending the monitoring hearing which we have scheduled, the Board will then be able to consider the length of time for which conditions should prevail and whether the electronic monitoring should continue.
7. The special conditions are:
- (1) To reside at s9(2)(a), Newtown, Wellington or any other 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) Upon release from prison, to travel directly to s9(2)(a), Newtown, Wellington and await the arrival of a Probation Officer and a representative from the monitoring company.
 - (3) 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 [10:00pm] and [06:00am] daily, unless you have the prior written approval of a Probation Officer, or as permitted by section 33(4) of the Parole Act 2002.
 - (4) To submit to electronic monitoring as directed by a Probation Officer in order to monitor your compliance with any conditions relating to your whereabouts.
 - (5) 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.
 - (6) Not to enter or loiter near any place where children under 16 are congregating unless you have the prior written approval of a Probation Officer, or unless an adult who has been approved by a Probation Officer in writing, is present.
 - (7) Not to enter Taranaki as defined by a Probation Officer in writing unless you have the prior written approval of a Probation Officer.
 - (8) Not to enter Nelson as defined by a Probation Officer in writing unless you have the prior written approval of a Probation Officer.
 - (9) To attend a psychological assessment and attend, participate in and complete any recommended treatment as directed by a Probation Officer.
 - (10) To attend an assessment for a departmental programme/maintenance group, and attend, participate in and adhere to the rules of the programme/maintenance group as directed by a Probation Officer.
 - (11) To attend an alcohol and drug assessment, and attend, participate in and complete any treatment or counselling directed by a Probation Officer.
 - (12) Not to possess, use, or consume alcohol, controlled drugs or psychoactive substances except controlled drugs

prescribed for you by a health professional.

(13) Upon request, to make available to a Probation Officer, or his or her agent, any electronic device capable of accessing the internet that is used by you, or is in your possession or control, for the purpose of monitoring your use of the device.

(14) Not to possess or use any electronic device capable of accessing internet or capturing, storing, accessing or distributing images (including without limitation any personal computer, notebooks, tablets or cell phones) without prior written approval from a by a Probation Officer.

(15) Not to have contact or otherwise associate, with a person under the age of 16 years, directly or indirectly unless you have the prior written approval of a Probation Officer, or unless you are under the supervision and in the presence of an adult approved in writing by a Probation Officer.

(16) 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.

(17) 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.

(18) To attend a reintegration meeting as directed by a Probation Officer.

(19) To comply with any direction made under section 29B(2)(b) of the Parole Act 2002 to attend a hearing in March 2021, at a time and place to be notified to you.

Next Hearing Date:

Offender Board Decision Report

Hearing Date: 20-OCT-2020

Offender Name: CASTLE, Aaron Paul

PRN/DLicNo:

s9(2)(a)

Application Type: VARY CONDITIONS - PAROLE

Attended

Hearing Location: RIMUTAKA PRISON

Hearing Outcome: DECLINED

Board Decision:

1. Aaron Paul Castle also known as Aaron Laurence is serving a sentence of 12 years nine months? imprisonment for serious sexual offending against boys under the age of 16 and for possessing and making objectionable publications. His statutory release date is 28 April 2024. Mr Castle was released on parole on 1 September 2020 with standard and special conditions to remain in force until his statutory release date.

2. Mr Castle was released to an address in Newtown, Wellington. Recently, the Board became aware through his counsel that Mr Castle had been directed by his Probation Officer to move from that address to an address in the s9(2) area. Subsequently, s9(2)(a) applied to the Board to vary the release conditions to require Mr Castle to live at the Newtown address to which he was initially released. The application was expressed to be made in opposition to a variation of his release conditions following the Probation Officer's decision. That was not correct. s9(2)(a) confirmed that the direction to move was made pursuant to section 14(1)(f) of the Parole Act 2002 which imposed a standard parole condition that Mr Castle must not reside at any address at which a Probation Officer has directed he is not to reside. Accordingly, the Board treated s9(2)(a)'s application as made pursuant to section 56(1) of the Act to vary Mr Castle's special release conditions.

3. s9(2)(a) appeared for the Department. Also attending was s9(2)(a), the Assistant Regional Manager and Probation Officer s9(2)(a). Mr Castle was supported by s9(2) supporters, s9(2)(a) he had been living with in the Newtown area prior to the direction from his Probation Officer to move.

4. s9(2)(a) filed submissions prior to the hearing, which she supplemented orally, opposing the application. She submitted that a variation in his release conditions requiring Mr Castle to live at the Newtown address would result in there being significant issues in Mr Castle's sentence being effectively managed which is the responsibility of the Department in the context of the identified risk matrix. She recorded that following Mr Castle's release on parole a reassessment of the address resulted in a determination that it was unsuitable due to the high number of children proximate to the address and the high number of areas which children regularly frequent which are close to the address. Further, information received subsequent to the parole hearing from the Ministry of Education, was that there are 62 children living in the immediate meshblocks surrounding the Newtown address. Mr Castle had proposed other addresses for release but none was assessed as suitable. Emergency accommodation was then arranged through the s9(2)(a) Supported Accommodation Service in an industrial area in s9(2) where he presently remains.

5. Prior to his release the proposed address in Newtown had been assessed on four occasions by Community Corrections between February 2018, when he was first considered for parole, and August 2020. On each occasion the Board was advised that it was suitable for Mr Castle's release. He had support there. Special release conditions to manage risk were considered and proposed. The Board accepted that the release plan endorsed by Community Corrections and the proposed special conditions were together sufficient to manage his risk in the community. His release from prison on parole was directed on that basis.

6. We have been unable to discern any change in circumstances since Mr Castle's release. There was a suggestion from s9(2)(a) that advice had been received from the Police yesterday as to the presence of a victim s9(2)(a), but as she acknowledged, that information came to light well after Mr Castle was required to move to the s9(2) address.

7. s9(2)(a) sought to challenge the basis on which the Department was supporting its decision. s9(2)(a)

Although s9(2)(a) and s9(2)(a) outlined the support available to Mr Castle at the new address it was evident at the hearing that the support had not been forthcoming in a way that was helpful to Mr Castle. He also emphasised that isolation and a lack of support were contributing factors to his offending.

8. Mr Castle expressed the view that the Board had the authority to direct Community Corrections on the matter of his residence. We do not share that view. The Board sets release conditions which it can subsequently vary, but it is for Community Corrections to administer and manage the release conditions. In that regard his Probation Officer is specifically vested with the power to direct him not to reside at the address specified by the Board in his release conditions. That is what has occurred. Although most of the hearing was devoted to discussing the merits of that decision and the decision-making process, it is not our role to rule on those matters. The Probation Officer exercised a statutory power and a challenge to that is a matter for the Courts, not the Parole Board.

9. It follows that the Board is not in a position to vary the special conditions of Mr Castle's release in the way requested by s9(2)(a) and we decline to do so. In our view the existing condition provides the framework for Mr Castle and his Probation Officer to manage where he lives.

10. We record that we were somewhat perplexed by the Department's approach to this hearing, which was based on a determined justification of a decision that was said to have been made after further information had been received from the Ministry of Education. Why the information had not been sought, available or considered until weeks after Mr Castle was released was not explained, despite encouragement and the opportunity to do so at the hearing. At the conclusion of the hearing, in view of the exchanges that occurred between the parties, we invited s9(2)(a) to give developments further consideration. That is as far as the Board can go.

11. His special conditions remain as follows:

- (1) To reside at s9(2)(a), Newtown, Wellington or any other 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) Upon release from prison, to travel directly to s9(2)(a), Newtown, Wellington and await the arrival of a Probation Officer and a representative from the monitoring company.
- (3) 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 [10:00pm] and [06:00am] daily, unless you have the prior written approval of a Probation Officer, or as permitted by section 33(4) of the Parole Act 2002.
- (4) To submit to electronic monitoring as directed by a Probation Officer in order to monitor your compliance with any conditions relating to your whereabouts.
- (5) 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.
- (6) Not to enter or loiter near any place where children under 16 are congregating unless you have the prior written approval of a Probation Officer, or unless an adult who has been approved by a Probation Officer in writing, is present.
- (7) Not to enter s9(2)(a) as defined by a Probation Officer in writing unless you have the prior written approval of a Probation Officer.
- (8) Not to enter s9(2) as defined by a Probation Officer in writing unless you have the prior written approval of a Probation Officer.
- (9) To attend a psychological assessment and attend, participate in and complete any recommended treatment as directed by a Probation Officer.
- (10) To attend an assessment for a departmental programme/maintenance group, and attend, participate in and adhere to the rules of the programme/maintenance group as directed by a Probation Officer.
- (11) To attend an alcohol and drug assessment, and attend, participate in and complete any treatment or counselling directed by a Probation Officer.
- (12) Not to possess, use, or consume alcohol, controlled drugs or psychoactive substances except controlled drugs prescribed for you by a health professional.
- (13) Upon request, to make available to a Probation Officer, or his or her agent, any electronic device capable of accessing the internet that is used by you, or is in your possession or control, for the purpose of monitoring your use of the device.
- (14) Not to possess or use any electronic device capable of accessing internet or capturing, storing, accessing or distributing images (including without limitation any personal computer, notebooks, tablets or cell phones) without prior written approval from a by a Probation Officer.
- (15) Not to have contact or otherwise associate, with a person under the age of 16 years, directly or indirectly unless you have the prior written approval of a Probation Officer, or unless you are under the supervision and in the presence of an adult approved in writing by a Probation Officer.
- (16) 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.
- (17) 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.
- (18) To attend a reintegration meeting as directed by a Probation Officer.
- (19) To comply with any direction made under section 29B(2)(b) of the Parole Act 2002 to attend a hearing in March 2021, at a time and place to be notified to you.

Next Hearing Date:

Terms of Reference

Practice Review – Placement of a high-risk & high-profile individual in the community

Lower North Regional Office

1. Purpose

The purpose of this practice review is to understand the current practices, procedures, and guidelines that support the assessment and decision-making in relation to address suitability for newly released high-risk and high-profile individuals and includes whether a community notification is made.

Specifically, the review will consider and analyse the procedures and practices undertaken as well as the circumstances surrounding the placement and subsequent relocation of Mr Aaron Castles (PRN: s9(2)(a) [REDACTED]) in the community.

2. Background Information

On 1 September 2020, Aaron Castle was released from prison to an address located in Newtown, Wellington. Mr Castle had been imprisoned for serious sexual offending against boys under the age of 16 and for possessing and making objectionable publications. His statutory release date was 28 April 2024. Prior to his release, the property was assessed by Community Corrections on four occasions between February 2018 and August 2020.¹

On each occasion, the Board was advised that it was suitable for Mr Castle's release. Special release conditions to manage risk were proposed. The Board accepted that the release plan endorsed by Community Corrections and the proposed special conditions were together sufficient to manage Mr Castle's risk in the community. His release from prison on parole was directed on that basis.

In October 2020, Community Corrections made the decision to relocate Mr Castle from his approved address to a s9(2)(a) [REDACTED]. This was due to the discovery of a school being in close proximity to where Mr Castle was living, which created an unacceptable risk that had not been previously identified.

While Mr Castle was unsuccessful in an application to the NZPB to remain at the Newtown address, the NZPB noted the following on the board outcome:

We record that we were somewhat perplexed by the Department's approach to this hearing, which was based on a determined justification of a decision that was said to have been made after further information had been received from the Ministry of Education. Why the information had not been sought, available or considered until weeks after Mr Castle was released was not explained, despite encouragement and the opportunity to do so at the hearing. At the conclusion of the hearing, in view of the

¹ NZPB report dated November 2020

exchanges that occurred between the parties, we invited s9(2)(a) to give developments further consideration. That is as far as the Board can go.

3. Objectives, Scope and Approach

To review the departmental practice and procedures available to staff in determining address suitability for identified high-risk persons being placed into the community upon release.

To explain the processes undertaken and decisions made with regards to:

- the initial assessment and approval of Mr Castle's Newtown-based accommodation;
- the circumstances and decision that rendered Mr Castles Newtown-based accommodation as unsuitable.

The scope of this review is confined to the Department's relevant frameworks – it does not extend into analysing external agencies policy or actions taken. This does not preclude the reviewer from making related enquiries with identified persons at external agencies to gather and/or clarify factual information.

The review will examine all available material, including:

- All offender-related reports, online or otherwise, relevant to this matter;
- Consultation with external agencies where indicated;
- Engagement with identified staff to determine facts;
- Review of current practice and policies; and
- Memorandum of Understanding with external agencies (eg Ministry of Education).

4. Reviewer

The principal reviewer will be s9(2)(a) (Adviser – Operational performance), who will be supported by s9(2)(a) (Practice Leader, Wellington District).

The reviewers will have access to all relevant information, documentation, premises and persons pertaining to the incident. As necessary, the reviewer/s may call on additional or specialist assistance.

The review will be completed, and a report submitted, by 5pm on 26 February 2021.



Liz Hawthorn
Regional Director Practice Delivery
Lower North Region

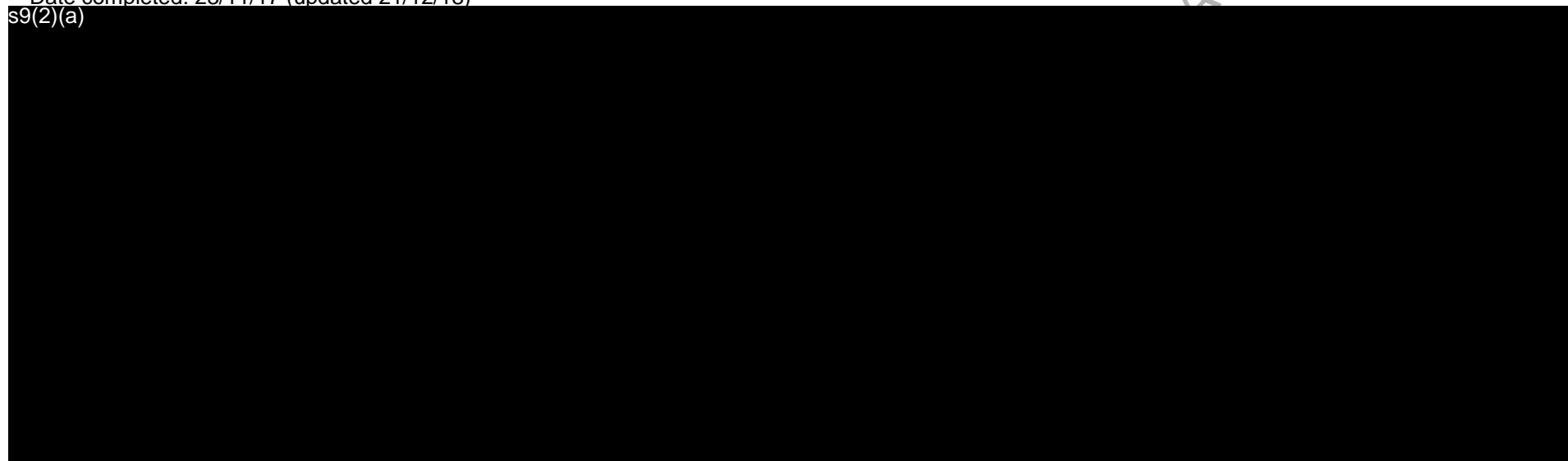
16/12/20
Date

Environmental scan: s9(2)(a) [REDACTED], Newtown, Wellington 6021

Prepared by: s9(2)(a) [REDACTED]

Date completed: 23/11/17 (updated 21/12/18)

s9(2)(a)



The census stats for Newtown East (the Statistics NZ area unit in which this address is located) indicate:

Category		Newtown East	Wellington City
Median age		30.4	33.9
People under 15 years		13.9%	17.3%
Median income		\$28,700	\$37,900
Ethnicity	NZ European	62.5%	76.4%
	Maori	10.2%	7.9%
	Pacific	11.4%	4.9%
	Asian	17.2%	15.7%
	Mid-East/Lat America/Africa	8.2%	2.5%
Families	Single-parent	20.9%	13.4%
	Couples with children	36.9%	43.9%
	Couples without children	42.2%	42.7%

Census stats indicate Newtown East has a fairly representative median age, though fewer residents under 15 years. Median income is lower than the city on average. Ethnically, Newtown is a diverse suburb with a broad mix of cultural groups, including migrant families. Family make-up is similar to the city on average, though single-parent families are slightly over-represented.

Community placement suitability assessment and placement approval for child sex offenders

The first part of this document is to be completed by the **Probation Officer** when considering accommodation for a child sex offender. Should the recommendation of the assessment be that the proposed address is suitable, the Probation Officer should send the form to the **Service Manager** to complete the rest of the form.

Offender details	Information collected
Name and PRN	Arron LAURENCE, s9(2)(a)
Age	43 s9(2)(a)
Offending history and type	<p>Possess objectionable publication x 5, Made/copied/supplied objectionable publication x 18, Unlawful sexual connection male under 12 x 7, Unlawful sexual connection male 12-16 x 8, Does indecent act with/upon boy under 12 x 18, Does indecent act with/upon male 12-16 x 2, Indecent assault on boy between 12-16 x 5, Indecent assault on boy under 12 x 2.</p> <p>Previous offending: Possess pipe for cannabis, Possess cannabis plant.</p>
Accommodation	
Proposed address	s9(2)(a) Wellington
Any special conditions precluding placement	<p>Would be subject to Parole conditions, have not yet been set by NZPB.</p> <p>Likely conditions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Not to contact under-16s unless with permission from a PO. - Not to possess or consume alcohol or illicit drugs (occupants have alcohol displayed at the property). - Not to possess electronic devices capable of accessing the internet. - Not to possess electronic devices capable of recording or distributing images or video recordings.
Proximity to places designed for children, including schools, ECE's and playgrounds	s9(2)(a)

	s9(2)(a)
Type	Standalone house
Ownership of the property	s9(2)(a)
Physical space available for the offender	Own room
Accessibility of public transport	Nearest bus stop within 300m of property.
Telephone	s9(2)(a)
Mobile phone reception	Y – no issues. EM has been canvassed; passed for both GPS and RF.
Electricity	Set – monthly bill.
Proximity to nearest Community Corrections Site	s9(2) from Wellington Community Corrections. s9(2)(a)
Presence of potential blocks to EM signal	s9(2)(a) () No identified issues with EM reception, but occupants advise should issues arise, s9(2)(a)
Questions for occupant(s)	
Number of occupants/names/relationships/length of relationship with offender	Two occupants – s9(2)(a)
Is/are the occupant(s) aware of conditions and order requirements	Yes – aware of court proceedings, nature of charge, nature of previous offending (none), possible conditions on Home Detention, and EM conditions. s9(2)(a)
Is/are the occupant(s) aware of the offender's criminal history and the circumstances around the current offending?	Yes
Are there any children who may be at risk from the offender, who may visit the address?	No
Is/are the occupant(s) aware of any issues concerning the offender and any person in the home that are likely to lead to distress or aggression?	No
Is/are the occupant(s) aware of any person in the household that has any gang associations?	No
Is/are the occupant(s) aware of any protection order in place naming the offender?	No
Have the police ever been called to the home, or to any previous address the occupant(s) has/have shared with the offender? If so, when and in what circumstances?	No
Has/have the occupant(s) ever feared for their safety as a result of the offender's actions?	No

Has the offender ever intentionally caused damage to the property, or to property in the home?	No
Is/are the occupant(s) aware of any substance abuse habits of the offender?	Yes – s9(2)(a) [REDACTED], and occupants are aware Arron may have a Parole condition not to possess or consume alcohol. s9(2) [REDACTED]
Assessment of address/occupant(s)	
Any presence of firearms/weapons	No
Any presence of dog/s on site	No
Does/do the occupant(s) consent to criminal history check?	Yes
Any concerns about the reaction of the occupant(s)?	No. Occupants are cognisant of likely issues and high risk situations, are willing and able to support Arron should he be released. Demonstrated strong awareness of the barriers to reintegration for Arron, and raised issue of neighbourhood notification – asked if they were responsible for this. Are now aware of the NN process, and are willing and able to cooperate with this if required.
Environmental scan	
Information from Senior Advisor Community Engagement and Reintegration	Please see attached document.
Risk of contact with associates	Minimal – associates are not considered to be related to Arron's likelihood of reoffending. s9(2)(a) [REDACTED]
Is the address suitable in terms of victim locale? Include VNR check	s6(c), s9(2)(a) [REDACTED]
Presence of children in the neighbourhood	No significant presence of children noted in neighbourhood. Schools in area but minimal foot traffic as is hilly. Immediate neighbours are known to occupants and are known to not have children.
Third Party Inquiries	
Police check (intel)	No response received yet.
Police advice (Police Case Manager)	
Criminal history check on occupants	s9(2)(a) [REDACTED]
High Risk Response Team advice	N/A
Other relevant information from the considerations in the practice guidance	(include link to practice guidance here)

Recommendation of Probation Officer:

Suitable

Rationale: Residing with a friend and friend's friend. Both are aware of offending and report being supportive. Occupants appear aware of risks and not collusive with Arron's offending. Neighbourhood is likely to have children and vulnerable people in the area, but foot traffic around the address of persons under 16 years likely to be low. Property is suitable for electronic monitoring. Neighbourhood Notifications may be appropriate, given the presence of grooming behaviour evident in Mr Laurence's offending.

Probation Officer: s9(2)(a)

Date: 12 January 2018

For Service Manager to complete

This form is to be accompanied by a Google aerial and street view of the proposed address.

I approve/do not approve this community placement for this offender (circle one)

Rationale:

Name:

Role:

Relevant Decision Maker

Date:

IOMS updated	
Copy of approval on offender file	
CSO notification register updated	

Full Parole Assessment Report to the New Zealand Parole Board

Meeting s 9(2)(a)

Date Report Completed: 18 January 2018

Offender Name:	LAURENCE, Arron Paul	Prison: Rimutaka Prison
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CURRENT PERSONAL DETAILS

PRN s 9(2)(a)
Date of Birth s 9(2)(a)
Birthplace s 9(2)(a) New Zealand
Gender Male
Ethnicity New Zealand European/Pakeha
RoC / Rol s 9(2)(a)

Current Prisoner Category Standard Case Management

IDU Level Not Applicable

IDU History	Level	Date From	Date To
	Not Applicable		

s 9(2)(a)

OFFENCES AND SENTENCES

Offences

Does Indecent Act With/Upon Boy 12 To 16 (2)	3yrs
Does Indecent Act With/Upon Boy Under 12 (18)	3yrs
Indecent Assault On Boy Between 12 - 16 (5)	3yrs
Indecent Assault On Boy Under 12 (2)	3yrs
Made/Copied/Supplied Objectionable Publ. (18)	3yrs
Possess Objectionable Publication (5)	3yrs
Unlawful Sexual Connection Male 12 To 16 (8)	12yrs 9mths
Unlawful Sexual Connection Male Under 12 (7)	12yrs 9mths

Sentence 03/05/2013

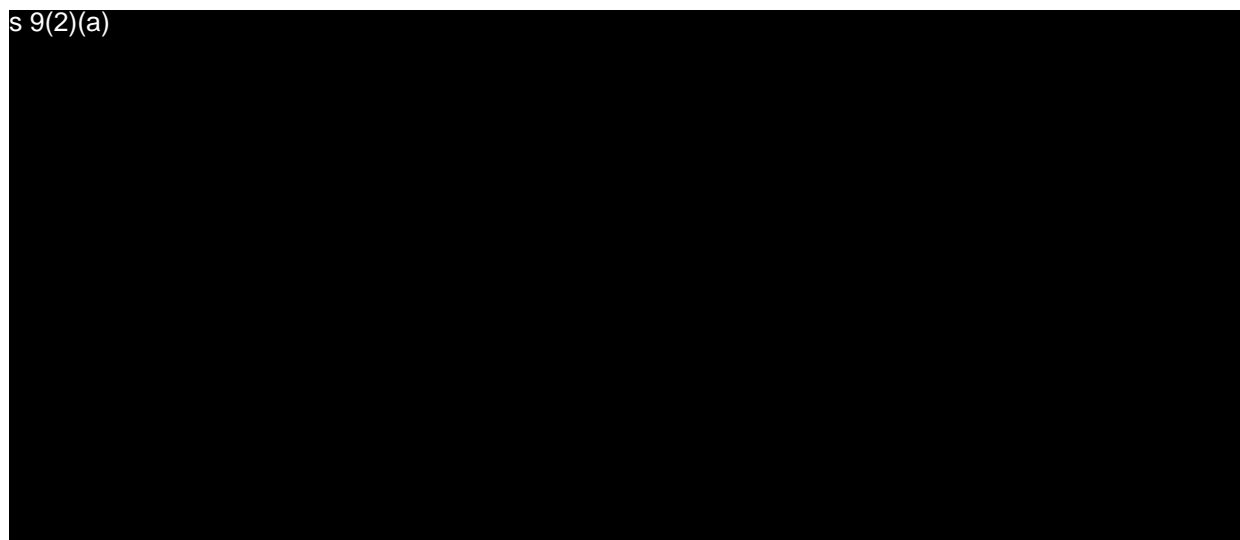
Commencement Date

Parole Eligibility Date 27/01/2018

Statutory Release Date 28/04/2024

PRISON HISTORY


s 9(2)(a)



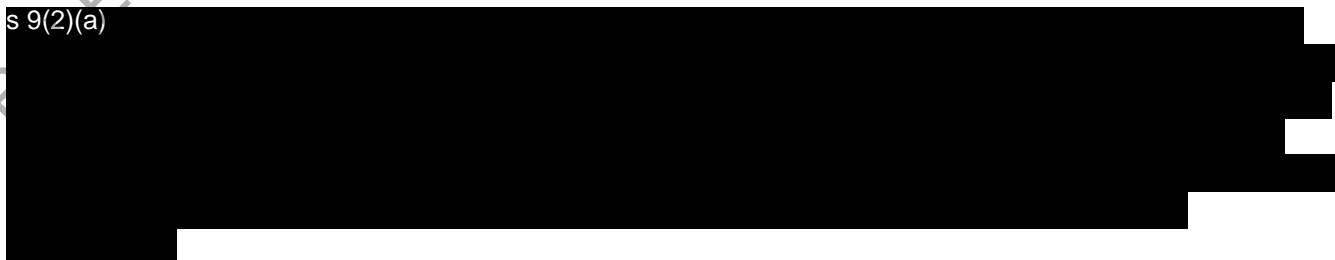
SUMMARY OF PROGRESS DURING SENTENCE

Behaviour and Attitude

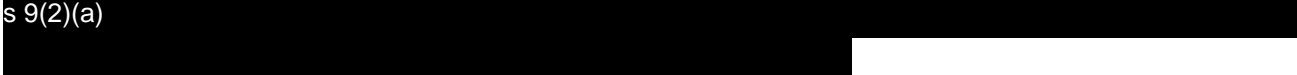
s 9(2)(a)




s 9(2)(a)



s 9(2)(a)




s 9(2)(a)



s 9(2)(a)

s 9(2)(ba)(i)



s 9(2)(a)

and being subject to the Child Protection Policy.

Rehabilitative Needs Summary

s 9(2)(a)



Progress Made :

s 9(2)(a)

During the development of his Offender Plan, he was scheduled to complete s 9(2)(a) and a Child Sex Offender (CSO) programme s 9(2)(a)

s 9(2)(a)

s 9(2)(ba)(i)

s 9(2)(a)

s 9(2)(a)

s 9(2)(ba)(i)

s 9(2)(a)

s 9(2)(a)

s 9(2)(a)

s 9(2)(ba)(i)

s 9(2)(a)

s 9(2)(a)

Proposed Further Activity :

Mr Laurence should complete the assessment for the Child Sex Offender programme when requested. He should follow his safety plan.

Reintegrative Needs Summary

s 9(2)(a)

s 9(2)(a)

Education and Work:

Progress Made:

s 9(2)(ba)(i)

s 9(2)(a)

s 9(2)(ba)(i)

s 9(2)(ba)(i)

s 9(2)(a)

s 9(2)(a)

Proposed Further Activities:

s 9(2)(a)

Health, Well Being, Lifestyle and Support:

Progress Made:

9(2)(a)

s 9(2)(a)

9(2)(a)

s 9(2)(a)

Proposed Further Activities:

In prison, Mr Laurence can work with his Case Officer to resolve any issues he may have around Health, Well-being, Lifestyle and Support.

Housing, Finance and Victim Related Issues:

Progress Made:

Mr Laurence reported he plans to reside with s 9(2)(a) in Newtown, Wellington. s 9(2)(a) (Please refer to the release proposal for more information).

s 9(2)(a)

s 9(2)(a)

s 9(2)(a)

s 9(2)(a)

Proposed Further Activities:

In prison, Mr Laurence can engage with his Case Manager to resolve any issues that may arise around Housing, Finance and Victim related issues.

RELEASE PROPOSAL

Rehabilitative Programmes

s 9(2)(a)

Community Corrections would recommend a special condition for Mr Laurence to complete an assessment for harmful substance use in the community, should he be granted Parole. Mr Laurence has not yet completed any rehabilitative intervention specifically for sexual offending. He remains waitlisted for Kia Marama, a treatment programme for prisoners with child sexual offending, and is likely to undertake the assessment process in 2018 or 2019. s 9(2)(a)

Community Corrections would also recommend a special condition for Mr Laurence to complete an assessment with a Departmental psychologist in the community.

Given the nature of Mr Laurence's index offences for Possess and Made/Copied/Supplied Objectionable Publications, a clear pathway to offending is identified for Mr Laurence with regard to access to the internet and devices capable of taking images and recordings. As such, Community Corrections would recommend Parole conditions prohibiting Mr Laurence from possessing or using devices capable of accessing the internet or devices capable of taking or storing photographic images or video recordings.

Accommodation

Mr Laurence proposes to reside at s 9(2)(a) Newtown, Wellington, with s 9(2)(a) confirm they are supportive of Mr Laurence, are aware of the nature of Mr Laurence's offending, and have been friends with him for a number of years. They advise they are willing and able to provide support and accommodation to Mr Laurence on an ongoing basis s 9(2)(a)

s 9(2)(a)

Residential Restrictions would be considered appropriate in this case. Occupants of Mr Laurence's proposed address, s 9(2)(a), have both provided written consent to have Mr Laurence reside at their address on electronic monitoring. Partial Residential Restrictions would be recommended, with a 7pm-7am curfew, to provide Mr Laurence with some stability and support with his reintegration into the community.

Due to Mr Laurence's offending not occurring in the context of a specific geographic locale, Global Positioning System technology is not considered likely to mitigate Mr Laurence's likelihood of reoffending, should he be released to the community. A special condition is recommended requiring Mr Laurence to reside at an approved address, and to gain approval from his Probation Officer prior to moving to another address, should he be released to the community.

Employment

s 9(2)(a)

s
9(2)
(a)

A special condition is recommended requiring Mr Laurence to obtain written permission from his Probation Officer prior to starting or changing his place of employment, should he be released.

Financial

Should Mr Laurence require assistance to manage his finances in the community, his supervising Probation Officer can assist with referrals to Work and Income New Zealand (WINZ) or community-based budgeting services.

s 9(2)(a)

Community / Whanau / Hapu Support

s 9(2)(a)

Issues Related to Victim(s)

s 9(2)(a)

Community Corrections would recommend Mr Laurence being subject to a Parole condition not to have direct or indirect contact with any persons under the age of 16, or any victim of his offending, unless with prior written permission from a Probation Officer. s 9(2)(a)

9(2)(a)

Healthcare

s 9(2)(a)

PROPOSED SPECIAL CONDITIONS ON RELEASE

- 1 To attend an assessment for s 9(2)(a) or a similar treatment programme for child sexual offending. To attend and complete an appropriate treatment programme for child sexual offending if and as recommended by the assessment to the satisfaction of your Probation Officer and programme provider. Details of the appropriate programme to be determined by your Probation Officer.
- 2 Attend a psychological assessment. To attend and complete any treatment/counselling as recommended by the psychological assessment to the satisfaction of your Probation Officer and treatment provider.
- 3 To reside at an address approved by a Probation Officer and not to move from that address without the prior written approval of a Probation Officer.
- 4 Upon release from prison, travel directly to s 9(2)(a) Newtown, Wellington, and await the arrival of a Probation Officer and/or electronic monitoring Field Officer.
- 5 To abide by Partial Residential Restrictions in the form of an electronically monitored daily curfew from 7pm to 7am for the first 6 months of your Parole period.
- 6 To obtain written permission from your Probation Officer prior to starting, terminating or changing your position or place of employment.
- 7 You are not to associate or otherwise have contact with any person under 16 years of age unless under the direct supervision of an informed adult who has been approved by the Probation Officer. An informed adult is a person over the age of 20 years who is fully aware of your previous offending and high risk situations, and in the opinion of the Probation Officer will not support or collude with any further offending.
- 8 You are not to have contact or otherwise associate with any victim(s) of your offending, directly or indirectly, unless you have the prior written consent of your Probation Officer.
- 9 You are not to possess or use any device capable of accessing the internet without prior written permission from a Probation Officer.

- 10 You are not to possess or use any device capable of taking or recording photograph imagery or video recordings without prior written permission from a Probation Officer.
- 11 To comply with the requirements of electronic monitoring, and provide access to the approved residence to the Probation Officer and representatives of the monitoring company, for the purpose of maintaining the electronic monitoring equipment as directed by the Probation Officer.

PROPOSED LENGTH OF RELEASE CONDITIONS

s 9(2)(a)

MAIN REPORTING CENTRE TO WHICH OFFENDER IS TO REPORT ON RELEASE

Service Centre Wellington Main Reporting Centre
Address 31-33 Adelaide Road, Newtown, Wellington
Phone Number 04 802.1570

RRS Report Writer

s 9(2)(a)

Probation Officer Name

Offender Signature

Date

Signed by Departmental Representative

Signature

Date

Sources of Information

File Notes

Judges Sentencing Notes

Pre Release Health Information

Offender Plan

Interview Mr Laurence 25 October 2017

Telephone conversation s 9(2)(a)

Meetings and conversations with s 9(2)(a)

Telephone conversation with s 9(2)(a)

Departmental assessment of Mr Laurence's proposed address s 9(2)(a)

Attachments

Offender Board Decision Report

Hearing Date: 14-FEB-2018

Offender Name:	CASTLE, Aaron Paul	PRN/DLicNo:	s9(2)(a)
Application Type:	PAROLE - POST-PED		Attended
Hearing Location:	RIMUTAKA PRISON		
Hearing Outcome:	DECLINED		
Board Decision:			

1. Aaron Paul Laurence, 44, has appeared for the first consideration of parole on his sentence of 12 years nine months for unlawful sexual connection and indecent acts committed against eight males aged under 12 and between 12-16 over a 12-year period. There were other convictions relating to large numbers of objectional publications.
2. The only other recorded offending relates to cannabis in 1995 and Mr Laurence has not been in prison before.
3. The prison security classification is minimum, the RoC*RoI s9(2) and the sentence expiry date is s9(2)(a).
4. s9(2)(a).
5. We now have the benefit of a Parole Assessment Report dated 22 December 2017. It rates overall risk as medium/high for sexual re-offending. It makes a firm recommendation for the Special Treatment Unit Programme for Child Sex Offenders and says that he is scheduled to attend that programme late in 2018.
6. s9(2)(a) has drawn a question mark over that. Her understanding is that it could be much longer before Mr Laurence secures a place on the programme. The PCO refers to there still being an assessment required and that the assessment itself may not be done until later in 2018 or even 2019. That is reflective of what is said in the Parole Assessment Report.
7. s9(2)(a) also refers to an independent psychological report. We have that report but we cannot see that it has a date. However, it rates risk as medium-low but then qualifies that in various ways.
8. The independent psychologist says that if the Board were to consider Mr Laurence needed to engage with a Departmental Rehabilitative Programme in prison then he should be afforded a high priority. He points to the timing of treatment as a contentious issue and we agree with that.
9. Given the very clear recommendation made by the Departmental psychologist we would urge that Mr Laurence be offered placement on the Child Sex Offender Programme as indicated, i.e. by late 2018 or earlier if at all possible.
10. Until that type of recommended work is undertaken the Board would struggle to be satisfied that risk is other than undue. That is the case today and we have no option but to decline parole.
11. Ordinarily we might be inclined not to schedule Mr Laurence again for the maximum period of two years but we do have concern about the priority which might be given and so we will schedule Mr Laurence to be seen again this time next year, that is in February 2019. No assurances are offered about the outcome of that hearing but it will be an opportunity for Mr Laurence's position to be re-examined.

Next Hearing Date: 01/02/2019

Community placement suitability assessment and placement approval for child sex offenders

The first part of this document is to be completed by the **Probation Officer** when considering accommodation for a child sex offender. Should the recommendation of the assessment be that the proposed address is suitable, the Probation Officer should send the form to the **Service Manager** to complete the rest of the form.

Offender details	Information collected
Name and PRN	Arron LAURENCE, s9(2)(a)
Age	44 (s9(2)(a))
Offending history and type	<p>Possess objectionable publication x 5, Made/copied/supplied objectionable publication x 18, Unlawful sexual connection male under 12 x 7, Unlawful sexual connection male 12-16 x 8, Does indecent act with/upon boy under 12 x 18, Does indecent act with/upon male 12-16 x 2, Indecent assault on boy between 12-16 x 5, Indecent assault on boy under 12 x 2.</p> <p>Previous offending: Possess pipe for cannabis, Possess cannabis plant.</p>
Accommodation	
Proposed address	s9(2)(a), Newtown, Wellington
Any special conditions precluding placement	<p>Would be subject to Parole conditions, have not yet been set by NZPB.</p> <p>Likely conditions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Not to contact under-16s unless with permission from a PO. - Not to possess or consume alcohol or illicit drugs (occupants have alcohol displayed at the property). - Not to possess electronic devices capable of accessing the internet. - Not to possess electronic devices capable of recording or distributing images or video recordings. - GPS monitoring with whereabouts condition not to enter parks, schools, etc. - Partial residential restrictions (7pm-7am curfew). - Psychological assessment. - Alcohol and drug assessment. - To complete s9(2)(a) or alternative maintenance programme for graduates of Kia Marama child sex offender treatment programme.
Proximity to places designed for children, including schools, ECE's and playgrounds	s9(2)(a)

	s9(2)(a)
Type	Standalone house
Ownership of the property	s9(2)(a)
Physical space available for the offender	Own room
Accessibility of public transport	Nearest bus stop within 300m of property.
Telephone	s9(2)(a)
Mobile phone reception	Y – no issues. EM has been canvassed; passed for both GPS and RF.
Electricity	Set – monthly bill.
Proximity to nearest Community Corrections Site	s9(2)(a) from Wellington Community Corrections. s9(2)(a)
Presence of potential blocks to EM signal	s9(2)(a). No identified issues with EM reception, but occupants advise should issues arise s9(2)(a)
Questions for occupant(s)	
Number of occupants/names/relationships/length of relationship with offender	Two occupants – s9(2)(a)
Is/are the occupant(s) aware of conditions and order requirements	Yes – aware of court proceedings, nature of charge, nature of previous offending, likely recommended conditions on Parole, and EM conditions. s9(2)(a)
Is/are the occupant(s) aware of the offender's criminal history and the circumstances around the current offending?	Yes
Are there any children who may be at risk from the offender, who may visit the address?	No
Is/are the occupant(s) aware of any issues concerning the offender and any person in the home that are likely to lead to distress or aggression?	No
Is/are the occupant(s) aware of any person in the household that has any gang associations?	No
Is/are the occupant(s) aware of any protection order in place naming the offender?	No

Have the police ever been called to the home, or to any previous address the occupant(s) has/have shared with the offender? If so, when and in what circumstances?	No
Has/have the occupant(s) ever feared for their safety as a result of the offender's actions?	No
Has the offender ever intentionally caused damage to the property, or to property in the home?	No
Is/are the occupant(s) aware of any substance abuse habits of the offender?	Yes – s9(2)(a) [REDACTED], and occupants are aware Arron may have a Parole condition not to possess or consume alcohol. s9(2)(a) [REDACTED]
Assessment of address/occupant(s)	
Any presence of firearms/weapons	No
Any presence of dog/s on site	No
Does/do the occupant(s) consent to criminal history check?	Yes
Any concerns about the reaction of the occupant(s)?	No. Occupants are cognisant of likely issues and high risk situations, are willing and able to support Arron should he be released. Demonstrated strong awareness of the barriers to reintegration for Arron, and raised issue of neighbourhood notification – asked if they were responsible for this. Are aware of the NN process, and are willing and able to cooperate with this if required.
Environmental scan	
Information from Senior Advisor Community Engagement and Reintegration	Please see attached document.
Risk of contact with associates	Minimal – associates are not considered to be related to Arron's likelihood of reoffending. s9(2)(a) [REDACTED]
Is the address suitable in terms of victim locale? Include VNR check	s6(c), s9(2)(a) [REDACTED]
Presence of children in the neighbourhood	No significant presence of children noted in neighbourhood. Schools in area but minimal foot traffic as is hilly. Immediate neighbours are known to occupants and are known to not have children.
Third Party Inquiries	
Police check (intel)	No response received yet.
Police advice (Police Case Manager)	
Criminal history check on occupants	s9(2)(a) [REDACTED]
High Risk Response Team advice	N/A
Other relevant information from the	http://tatou.corrections.govt.nz/pmq/probation/cps_practice

considerations in the practice guidance

[centre/tools and processes/processes/address/assessing-the-suitability-of-an-address/assessing an address for child sex offenders](#)

Recommendation of Probation Officer:

Suitable

Rationale: Residing with a friend and friend's friend. Both are aware of offending and report being supportive. Occupants appear aware of risks and not collusive with Arron's offending. Neighbourhood is likely to have children and vulnerable people in the area, but foot traffic around the address of persons under 16 years likely to be low. Property is suitable for electronic monitoring. Neighbourhood Notifications may be appropriate, given the presence of grooming behaviour evident in Mr Laurence's offending.

Probation Officer: s9(2)(a)

Date: 28 December 2018

For Service Manager to complete

This form is to be accompanied by a Google aerial and street view of the proposed address.

I approve/do not approve this community placement for this offender (circle one)

Rationale:

Name:

Role:

Relevant Decision Maker

Date:

IOMS updated

Copy of approval on offender file

CSO notification register updated

Parole Assessment Report to the New Zealand Parole Board

s 9(2)(a)

Meeting s 9(2)(a)

Date Report Completed: 04 January 2019

Offender Name:	LAURENCE, Arron Paul	Prison: Rolleston Prison
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CURRENT PERSONAL DETAILS

PRN	s 9(2)(a)
Date of Birth	s 9(2)(a)
Birthplace	s 9(2)(a) New Zealand
Gender	Male
Ethnicity	New Zealand European/Pakeha
RoC / RoI	s 9(2)(a)
Current Prisoner Category	Standard Case Management

IDU Level	Not Applicable		
IDU History	Level	Date From	Date To
	Not Applicable		

s 9(2)(a)

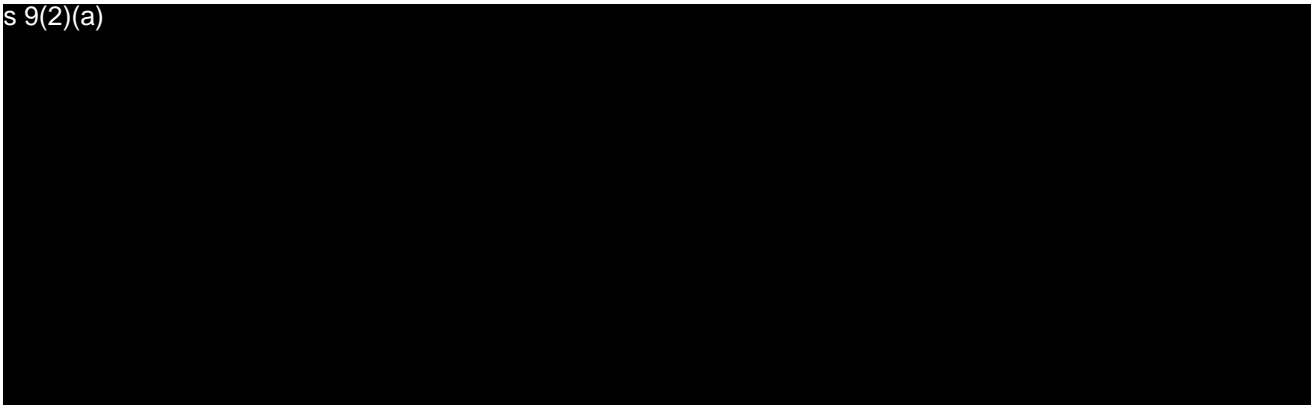
OFFENCES AND SENTENCES

Offences

Does Indecent Act With/Upon Boy 12 To 16 (2)	3yrs
Does Indecent Act With/Upon Boy Under 12 (18)	3yrs
Indecent Assault On Boy Between 12 - 16 (5)	3yrs
Indecent Assault On Boy Under 12 (2)	3yrs
Made/Copied/Supplied Objectionable Publ. (18)	3yrs
Possess Objectionable Publication (5)	3yrs
Unlawful Sexual Connection Male 12 To 16 (8)	12yrs 9mths
Unlawful Sexual Connection Male Under 12 (7)	12yrs 9mths

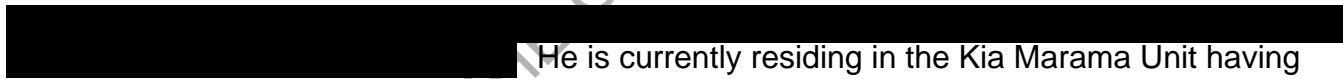


Sentence Commencement Date	03/05/2013
Parole Eligibility Date	27/01/2018
Statutory Release Date	28/04/2024
Sentence End Date	28/04/2024

s 9(2)(a)



PROGRESS MADE AGAINST RECOMMENDATIONS

s 9(2)(a)



He is currently residing in the Kia Marama Unit having completed the Starter Group Phase and is now attending the core phase of his identified programme which he commenced in s 9(2)(a)

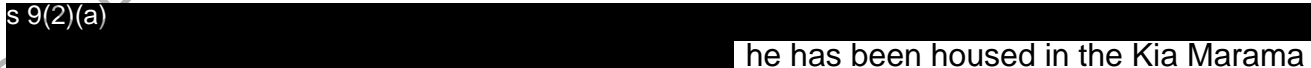
OTHER RELEVANT FACTORS

At the time of completing Mr Laurence's NZPB report, there were no other relevant factors identified.

SUMMARY OF PROGRESS MADE DURING SENTENCE


Behaviour and Attitude

s 9(2)(a)




he has been housed in the Kia Marama Unit at Rolleston Prison.

s 9(2)(a)



s 9(2)(a)

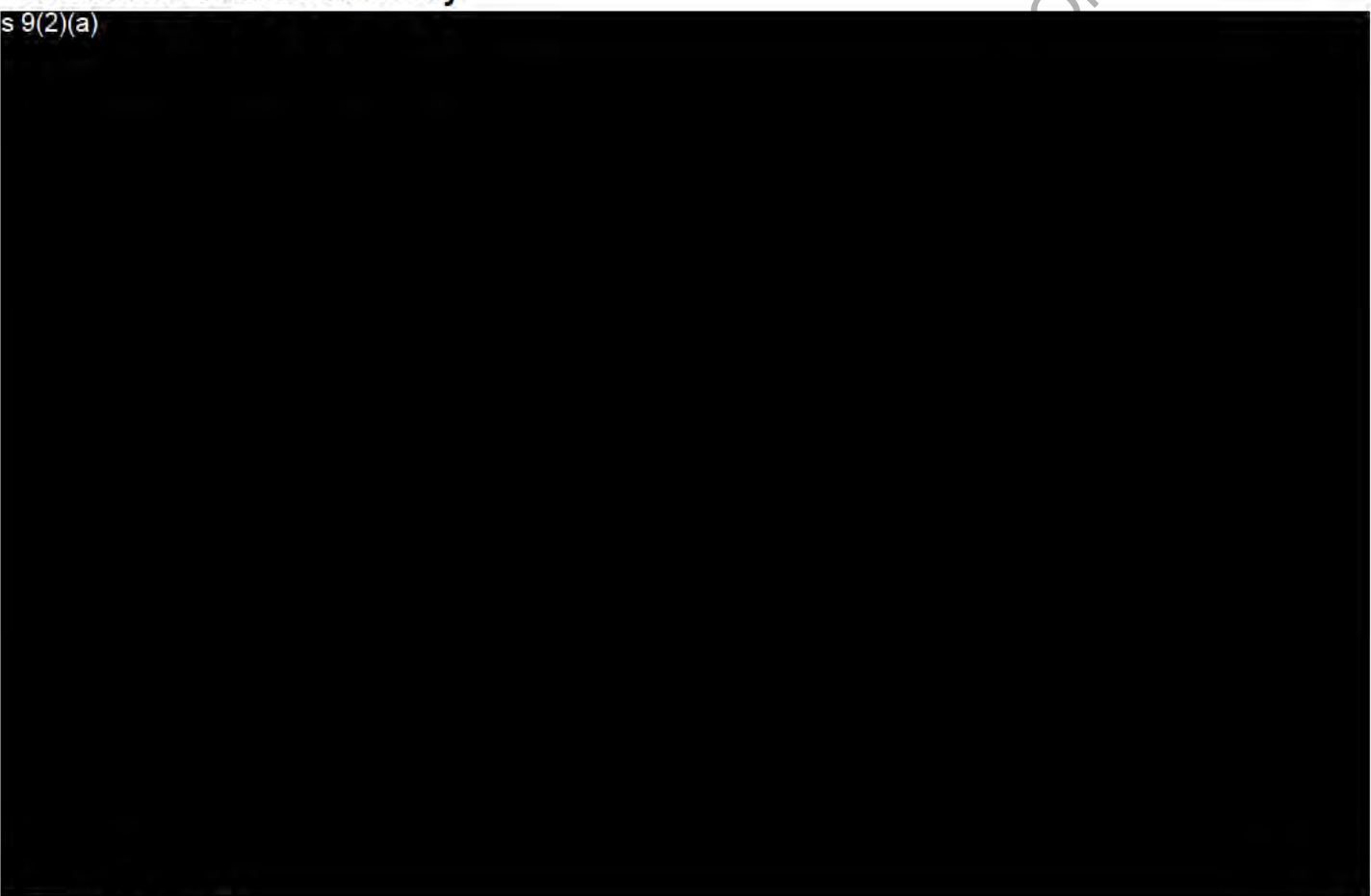


s 9(2)(a)



Rehabilitative Needs Summary

s 9(2)(a)



Progress Made :

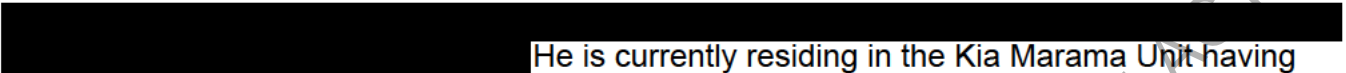

s 9(2)(a)



s 9(2)(a)


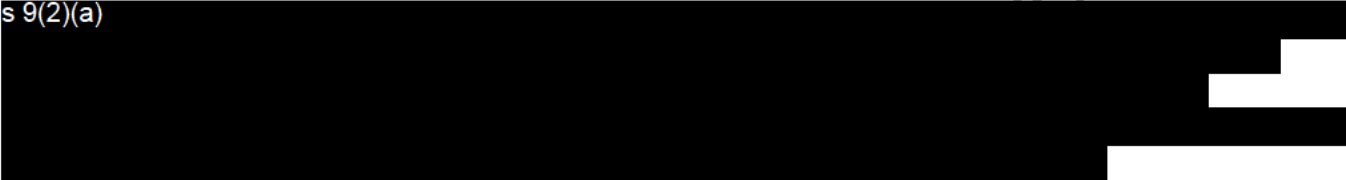
Mr Laurence was sentenced for 12 years, nine months for unlawful sexual connection and indecent acts committed against eight males aged under 12 and between 12-16 over a 12 year period. There were other convictions relating to offences for Possess and Made/Copied/Supplied Objectionable Publications. In addressing his offending needs he had been identified to complete the CSO rehabilitation programme which would address his offending needs.

s 9(2)(a)



He is currently residing in the Kia Marama Unit having completed the Starter Group Phase and is now attending the core phase of his identified CSOTP programme which he commenced in September 2018.

s 9(2)(a)



s 9(2)(a)

s 9(2)(a)



s 9(2)(a)




9(2)(a)



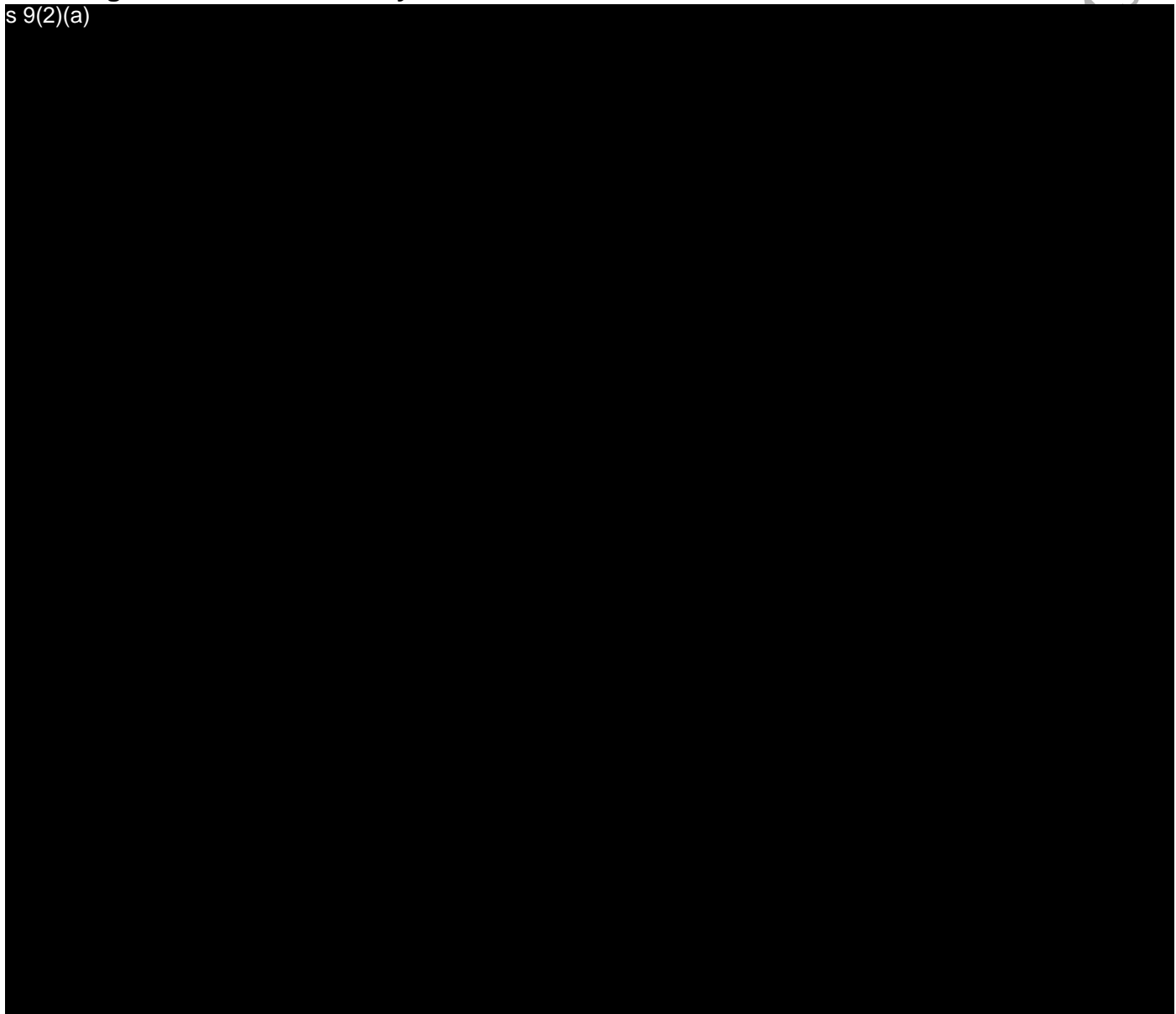
Proposed Further Activity :

s 9(2)(a)



Reintegrative Needs Summary

s 9(2)(a)



Education and Work:

Progress Made:

s 9(2)(a) [REDACTED] 9(2)(a) [REDACTED] 9(2)(a) [REDACTED] s 9(2)(a) [REDACTED].

9(2)(a) [REDACTED]

9(2)(a) [REDACTED] Mr Laurence will highly likely have conditions limiting his use of internet and digital devices.

9(2)(a) [REDACTED] 9(2)(a) [REDACTED] s 9(2)(a) [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

9(2)(a) [REDACTED]

Proposed Further Activities:

s 9(2)(a) [REDACTED].

s 9(2)(a) [REDACTED]

Health, Well Being, Lifestyle and Support:

Progress Made:

9(2)(a)

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9(2)(a)


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9(2)(a)

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Proposed Further Activities:

s 9(2)(a)

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Housing, Finance and Victim Related Issues:

Progress Made:

As mentioned in his previous report Mr Laurence proposes the same address in Newtown, Wellington s 9(2)(a)

s 9(2)(a)

s 9(2)(a)

s 6(c)

s 9(2)(a)

Proposed Further Activities:

Mr Laurence is encouraged to complete the activities described above.

RELEASE PROPOSAL

Rehabilitative Programmes

s 9(2)(a)

and it is

understood Mr Laurence is currently completing the Child Sex Offender Treatment Programme (CSOTP) at Kia Marama, Rolleston Prison. s 9(2)(a)

Community Corrections

would recommend a further special condition requiring Mr Laurence to complete an assessment and treatment for harmful substance use in the community, should he be granted Parole. Community Corrections would also recommend a special condition for Mr Laurence to complete an assessment, and any further recommended treatment, with a Departmental psychologist in the community.

Given Mr Laurence's convictions for Possess and Made/Copied/Supplied Objectionable Publications, a clear pathway to offending is identified for Mr Laurence with regard to access to the internet and devices capable of taking images and recordings. As such, Community Corrections would recommend Parole conditions prohibiting Mr Laurence from possessing or using devices capable of accessing the internet or devices capable of taking or storing photographic images or video recordings.

Accommodation

Mr Laurence proposes to reside at s 9(2)(a), Newtown, Wellington, with support people s 9(2)(a), and have been friends with him for a number of years. They advise they are willing and able to provide support and accommodation to Mr Laurence on an ongoing basis, s 9(2)(a)

s 9(2)(a)

Residential Restrictions would be considered appropriate in this case. Occupants of Mr Laurence's proposed address, s 9(2)(a), have provided verbal consent to have Mr Laurence reside at their address whilst subject to electronic monitoring, s 9(2)(a) has provided written consent. s 9(2)(a)

Partial Residential Restrictions would be recommended, with a 7pm-7am curfew, to provide Mr Laurence with some stability and support with his reintegration into the community.

Due to the seriousness and repeated, extended nature of Mr Laurence's offending, a condition would be recommended prohibiting Mr Laurence from approaching, entering or remaining in schools, parks, playgrounds, or any other area frequented by people under 16 years old as identified in writing by a Probation Officer. Global Positioning System technology is recommended to monitor compliance with this condition. A further special condition is recommended requiring Mr Laurence to reside at an approved address, and to gain approval from his Probation Officer prior to moving to another address, should he be released to the community.

Employment

s 9(2)(a)

. Due to recommended special conditions restricting Mr Laurence's access to the internet and recording devices, a special condition is recommended requiring Mr Laurence to obtain written permission from his Probation Officer prior to starting or changing his place of employment, should he be released. This will permit Community Corrections to fully canvass any proposed employment, mitigate any risks and ensure Mr Laurence's potential employers are aware of his situation and conditions. Should he be granted Parole at this time, Mr Laurence would be eligible for a referral to Community Corrections' Offender Recruitment Consultant, for support with education and employment.

Financial

Should Mr Laurence require assistance to manage his finances in the community, his support people and supervising Probation Officer can help him apply for financial assistance with the Ministry of Social Development (MSD) or community-based budgeting services.

Relationships

s 9(2)(a)

Community / Whanau / Hapu Support

Mr Laurence has support in the community from s 9(2)(a) with whom he proposes to reside. s 9(2)(a) have been friends with Mr Laurence for a number of years, and demonstrate awareness of the nature of Mr Laurence's offending, the barriers he is likely to face whilst reintegrating into the community, high-risk situations he may experience, and the Parole conditions to which he may be subject. Mr Laurence also has support from s 9(2)(a)

s 9(2)(a) and are aware of the nature of Mr Laurence's offending as well as his likely Parole conditions, and advise they are willing and able to support him in the community.

Issues Related to Victim(s)

s 9(2)(a) Community Corrections would recommend Mr Laurence being subject to a Parole condition not to have direct or indirect contact with any persons under the age of 16, or any victim of his offending, unless with prior written permission from a Probation Officer. s 9(2)(a)

s 9(2)(a)

Healthcare

s 9(2)(a)

PROPOSED SPECIAL CONDITIONS ON RELEASE

- 1 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.
- 2 To submit to electronic monitoring as directed by a Probation Officer in order to monitor your compliance with any conditions relating to your whereabouts.
- 3 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.
- 4 To attend a psychological assessment and attend, participate in and complete any recommended treatment as directed by a Probation Officer.
- 5 To attend an alcohol and drug assessment, and attend, participate in and complete any treatment or counselling directed by a Probation Officer.
- 6 To attend, participate in and complete s 9(2)(a), or an equivalent community-based maintenance group for graduates of Kia Marama Child Sex Offender Treatment Programme, as directed by a Probation Officer.

- 7 To reside at s 9(2)(a) [REDACTED], Newtown, Wellington, or any other 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.
- 8 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 19:00pm and 07:00am daily, unless you have the prior written approval of a Probation Officer, or as permitted by section 33(4) of the Parole Act 2002.
- 9 Upon release from prison, to travel directly to s 9(2)(a) [REDACTED], Newtown, Wellington and await the arrival of a representative from the monitoring company.
- 10 Not to have contact or otherwise associate, with a person under the age of 16 years, directly or indirectly unless you have the prior written approval of a Probation Officer, or unless you are under the supervision and in the presence of an adult approved in writing by a Probation Officer.
- 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 Not to enter or loiter near any school, early childhood education centre, park, library, swimming pool, other recreational facility, church, or other area specified in writing by a Probation Officer, unless you have the prior written approval of a Probation Officer, and an adult approved by a Probation Officer in writing, is present.

PROPOSED LENGTH OF RELEASE CONDITIONS

It is recommended that the special and standard conditions of Mr Laurence's Parole extend to his Sentence End Date.

MAIN REPORTING CENTRE TO WHICH OFFENDER IS TO REPORT ON RELEASE

Service Centre Wellington Main Reporting Centre
Address 31-33 Adelaide Road, Newtown, Wellington
Phone Number 04 802.1570

RRS Report Writer K Mcgilp

Probation Officer Name s 9(2)(a)

Offender Signature _____ **Date**

Signed by Departmental Representative

Signature _____ **Date**

Sources of Information

File Notes

Judges Sentencing Notes

Police Summary of Facts

Offender Plan

- Conversation with s 9(2)(a)
- Phone conversation with s 9(2)(a)
- Phone conversation with
- Police Intel information

Attachments

Offender Board Decision Report

Hearing Date: 11-FEB-2019

Offender Name:	CASTLE, Aaron Paul	PRN/DLicNo:	s9(2)(a)
Application Type:	PAROLE - POST-PED		Attended
Hearing Location:	ROLLESTON PRISON		
Hearing Outcome:	DECLINED		
Board Decision:			

1. Arron Paul Laurence is aged 45 and has made his second appearance before the Board for the consideration of release on parole. Mr Laurence is serving a sentence of 12 years nine months? imprisonment imposed on 3 May 2013. He became eligible for parole on 27 January 2018 and his sentence ends on 28 April 2024.
2. The sentence was imposed for a total of 65 offences with a number of these being sexual offences against boys. Mr Laurence has a pattern of befriending young boys and inviting them to his home with promises of playing with the PlayStation, food and cigarettes and then sexually abusing them. In all there were eight victims.
3. In imposing sentence the Court imposed a minimum non-parole period of six years six months.
4. Mr Laurence has a RoC*RoI score of s9(2). There are no previous convictions for sexual offences and Mr Laurence has not been to prison before.
5. The last appearance before the Board was on 14 February 2018. The Board noted that Mr Laurence had undertaken the Drug Treatment Programme in 2014. He was scheduled to attend the Special Treatment Unit for Child Sex Offenders but this had not yet commenced.
6. Since then Mr Laurence has been transferred to Rolleston Prison and he began the core phase of Kia Marama in September last year. He is scheduled to complete the programme in May or June of this year. Thereafter there will be a period of post treatment assessment.
7. At the hearing today Mr Laurence was represented by counsel, s9(2)(a). Counsel indicated that his client was not seeking release and wished to complete the rehabilitative programme that he was currently undertaking. s9(2)(a) requested that his client be allowed to return before the Board in six months? time after he had completed the programme.
8. In view of the fact that Mr Laurence has yet to complete the treatment scheduled for him, and that he was assessed as being at medium/high risk of further sexual offending in the psychologist's report of 22 December 2017, the Board is not satisfied that if released he would not pose an undue risk to the safety in the community.
9. Parole is declined. Mr Laurence will be scheduled to be seen again by the Board in August of this year and no later than 31 August 2019. For that hearing the Board requests an updated psychologist's assessment. It requests that this assessment examine Mr Laurence's progress at Kia Marama, any new assessment of his risk, an assessment of his proposal for release and any further recommendations for treatment.
10. Mr Laurence should not take the scheduling of his return in six months? time as any guarantee that he will be released on that date. The Board will consider release on the merits of the information it has at the time.

Next Hearing Date: 01/08/2019

Parole Assessment Report to the New Zealand Parole Board

s 9(2)(a)

Meeting s 9(2)(a)

Date Report Completed: 21 June 2019

Offender Name:	LAURENCE, Arron Paul	Prison: Rolleston Prison
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CURRENT PERSONAL DETAILS

PRN s 9(2)(a)

Date of Birth s 9(2)(a)

Birthplace s 9(2)(a), New Zealand

Gender Male

Ethnicity New Zealand European/Pakeha

RoC / Rol s 9(2)(a)

Current Prisoner Category Standard Case Management

IDU Level Not Applicable

IDU History	Level	Date From	Date To
	Not Applicable		

s 9(2)(a)

OFFENCES AND SENTENCES

Offences

Does Indecent Act With/Upon Boy 12 To 16 (2)	3yrs
Does Indecent Act With/Upon Boy Under 12 (18)	3yrs
Indecent Assault On Boy Between 12 - 16 (5)	3yrs
Indecent Assault On Boy Under 12 (2)	3yrs
Made/Copied/Supplied Objectionable Publ. (18)	3yrs
Possess Objectionable Publication (5)	3yrs
Unlawful Sexual Connection Male 12 To 16 (8)	12yrs 9mths
Unlawful Sexual Connection Male Under 12 (7)	12yrs 9mths

Sentence 03/05/2013
Commencement Date
Parole Eligibility Date 27/01/2018
Statutory Release Date 28/04/2024
Sentence End Date 28/04/2024

s 9(2)(a)

PROGRESS MADE AGAINST RECOMMENDATIONS

s 9(2)(a)

s 9(2)(a)

With reference to his December 2017, Psychological Assessment Report, it was noted by the Board, he was assessed as being at medium/high risk of further sexual offending, the Board stated it was not yet satisfied that if released he would not pose an undue risk to the safety of the community.

s 9(2)(a)

s 9(2)(a)

A Psychological Assessment Report will be completed and finalised and made available for the August 2019 NZPB hearing.

OTHER RELEVANT FACTORS

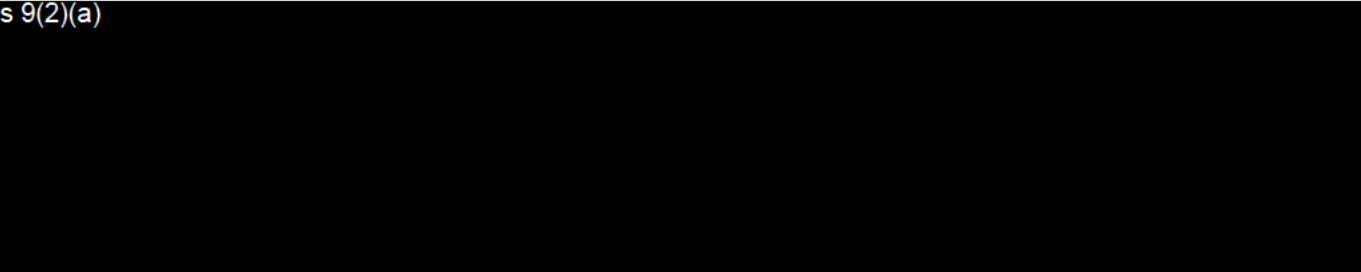
s 9(2)(a)

SUMMARY OF PROGRESS MADE DURING SENTENCE

Behaviour and Attitude

Since his last appearance before the Board Mr Laurence has remained housed in the Kia Marama Unit at Rolleston Prison.

s 9(2)(a)





9(2)(a)



9(2)(a)



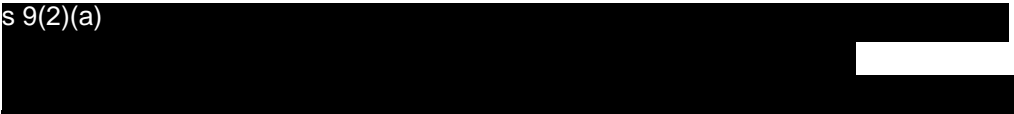
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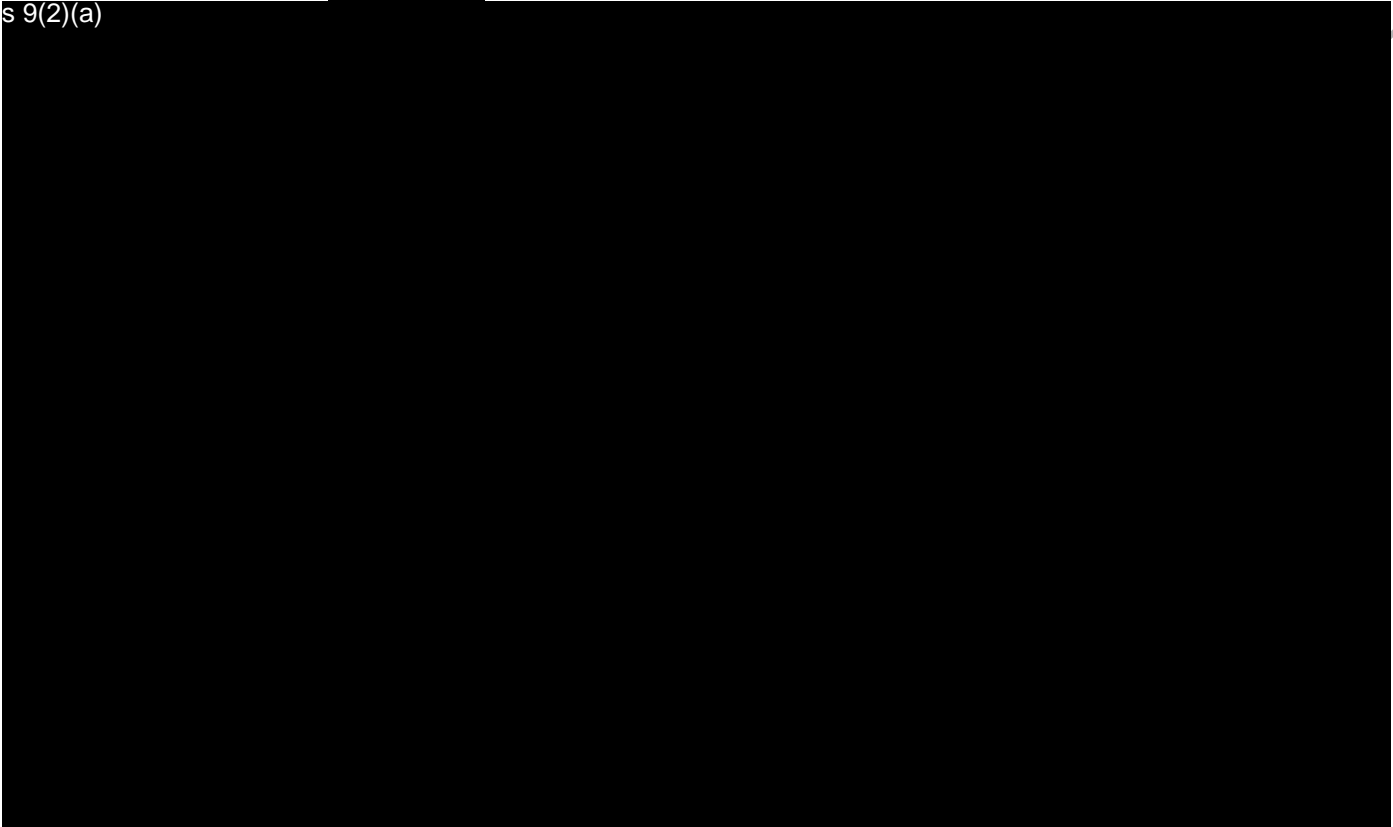
Rehabilitative Needs Summary

Needs:

s 9(2)(a)


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s 9(2)(a)

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Progress Made :

Since his last NZPB February appearance, Mr Laurence has continued with his engagement in the core phase of his CSOTP, which it is anticipated he will complete this phase at the end of June 2019, s 9(2)(a)

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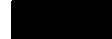
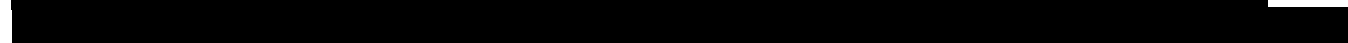

s 9(2)(a)

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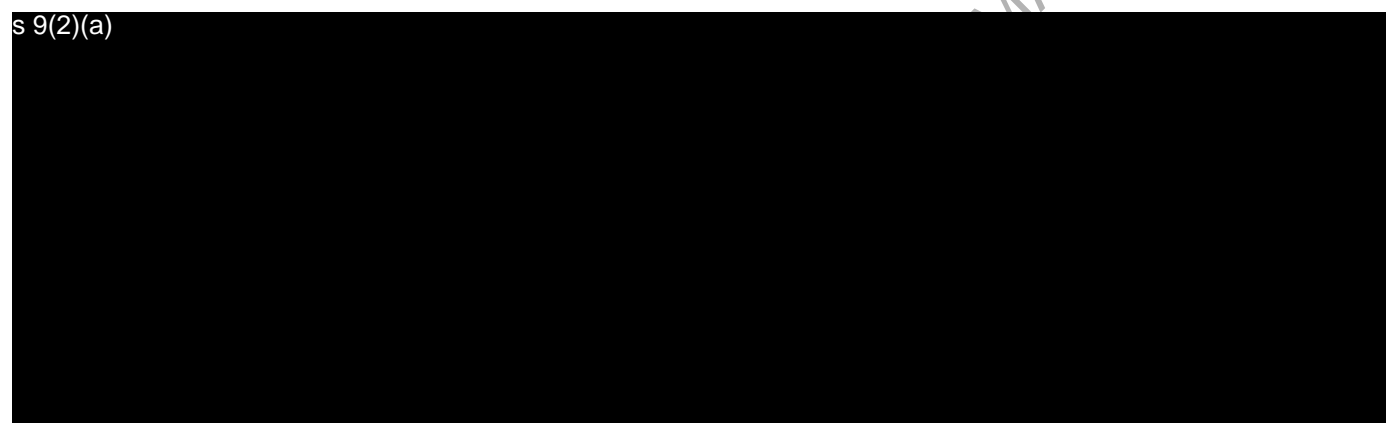
9(2)(a)



s 9(2)(a)




s 9(2)(a)



RELEASED UNDER THE

Reintegrative Needs Summary

s 9(2)(a)



RELEASED UNDER THE
ACCESS TO INFORMATION ACT

Education and Work:

Progress Made:

s 9(2)(a)

s 9(2)(a)

s 9(2)(a)

s 9(2)(a)

s 9(2)(a)

s 9(2)(a)

s 9(2)(a)


Proposed Further Activities:

s 9(2)(a)

Health, Well Being, Lifestyle and Support:

Progress Made:


s 9(2)(a)

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9(2)(a)

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s 9(2)(a)

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9(2)(a)


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9(2)(a)

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Proposed Further Activities:

s 9(2)(a)

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Housing, Finance and Victim Related Issues:

Progress Made:

Mr Laurence's proposed release address remains the same address in Newtown, Wellington
s 9(2)(a)

This proposed release address has been deemed suitable in his previous Parole Reports.

s 9(2)(a)

s 9(2)(a)

s 6(c)

s 9(2)(a)

Proposed Further Activities:

Mr Laurence is encouraged to complete the activities described above.

RELEASE PROPOSAL

Rehabilitative Programmes

s 9(2)(a)

It is recommended that a special condition be imposed for Mr Laurence to be referred for a further substance use assessment in the community s 9(2)(a)

Such intervention is available through individual, group and residential programmes, the most appropriate of which will be determined by the alcohol/other drug assessor.

It is further recommended that a special condition prohibiting Mr Laurence from possessing/consuming alcohol and other drugs be imposed s 9(2)(a)

Mr Laurence is currently completing the CSOTP at Kia Marama which he commenced in s 9(2)(a). He is scheduled to complete the core phase of the programme in June 2019, s 9(2)(a)

s 9(2)(a)

An additional special condition requiring Mr Laurence to engage with a Departmental Psychologist is also recommended to support Mr Laurence whilst he puts his learnings in to place in the community.

Given Mr Laurence's convictions for Possess and Made/Copied/Supplied Objectionable Publications, a clear pathway to offending is identified with regard to access to the internet and devices capable of taking images and recordings. It is therefore recommended a condition prohibiting Mr Laurence from possessing or using devices capable of accessing the internet or devices capable of taking or storing photographic images or video recordings is imposed.

Accommodation

Mr Laurence proposes to reside at s 9(2)(a) Newtown, Wellington, with support people s 9(2)(a). The address has been canvassed in previous Parole Assessment Reports and the address and occupants remain assessed as suitable. s 9(2)(a) the proposed address is also assessed as suitable with regard to victim locale.

s 9(2)(a) advise they have been friends with Mr Laurence for a number of years, and are aware of the nature of his offending. They confirm they are still supportive of Mr Laurence and are willing and able to provide support and accommodation to Mr Laurence on an ongoing basis.

A special condition requiring Mr Laurence to reside at the address, and not to move without prior written permission, is recommended to enable the Department to assess the suitability and have oversight over any of Mr Laurence's potential living arrangements.

Mr Laurence and the proposed occupants have both consented to Residential Restrictions and/or GPS monitoring should this be imposed. Partial Residential Restrictions is recommended, with a daily 7pm - 7am curfew, to provide Mr Laurence with stability and support with his reintegration into the community.

Employment

s 9(2)(a) s 9(2)(a)

Due to recommended special conditions restricting Mr Laurence's access to the internet and recording devices, a special condition is recommended requiring Mr Laurence to obtain written permission from his Probation Officer prior to starting or changing his place of employment or voluntary work.

This will allow Community Corrections to fully canvass any proposed employment, and ensure Mr Laurence's potential employers are aware of his offending and conditions. Mr Laurence is eligible to be referred to Community Corrections' Offender Recruitment Consultant for support with education and employment., which can also occur prior to release.

Financial

s 9(2)(a)

should Mr Laurence require assistance to manage his finances in the community, he can be supported to apply for financial assistance with the Ministry of Social Development (MSD), and/or be referred for community-based budgeting services.

Relationships

s 9(2)(a)

Community / Whanau / Hapu Support

Mr Laurence advises his key supports in the community are s 9(2)(a) whom he proposes to reside. s 9(2)(a) have been friends with Mr Laurence for a number of years, and demonstrate awareness of the nature of Mr Laurence's offending, the barriers he is likely to face whilst reintegrating into the community, high-risk situations he may experience, and the Parole conditions to which he may be subject.

Mr Laurence also has support from s 9(2)(a) s 9(2)(a)

Alongside the above personal support, Mr Laurence also will have the support/oversight from the s 6(c) Case Manager, and s 9(2)(a) of the s 9(2)(a)

Issues Related to Victim(s)

s 6(c), s 9(2)(a)

Given the nature of his offending a special condition prohibiting Mr Laurence from having contact with the victims of his offending is recommended. It is further recommended a special condition be imposed prohibiting any contact with any persons under the age of 16, unless with prior written permission of a Probation Officer.

s 9(2)(a)

s 9(2)(a)

Furthermore, due to the seriousness and extensive nature of Mr Laurence's offending, a condition is also recommended prohibiting Mr Laurence from approaching, entering or remaining in schools, parks, playgrounds, or any other area frequented by people under 16 years old as identified in writing by a Probation Officer. Global Positioning System technology is recommended to monitor compliance with this condition.

Healthcare

s 9(2)(a)

PROPOSED SPECIAL CONDITIONS ON RELEASE

- 1 Not to possess, use, or consume alcohol, controlled drugs or psychoactive substances except controlled drugs prescribed for you by a health professional.
- 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 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.
- 4 Not to possess or use any electronic device capable of accessing the internet, other than a device that has been approved in writing by a Probation Officer.
- 5 To attend an alcohol and drug assessment, and attend, participate in and complete any treatment or counselling directed by a Probation Officer.
- 6 To attend a psychological assessment and attend, participate in and complete any recommended treatment as directed by a Probation Officer.
- 7 To attend, participate in and complete s 9(2)(a) [REDACTED], or an equivalent community-based maintenance group for graduates of Kia Marama Child Sex Offender Treatment Programme, as directed by a Probation Officer.
- 8 To reside at s 9(2)(a) [REDACTED] Newtown, Wellington, or any other 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.
- 9 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 7pm and 7am daily, unless you have the prior written approval of a Probation Officer, or as permitted by section 33(4) of the Parole Act 2002.
- 10 Upon release from prison, to travel directly to s 9(2)(a) [REDACTED], Newtown, Wellington and await the arrival of a representative from the monitoring company.
- 11 Not to have contact or otherwise associate, with a person under the age of 16 years, directly or indirectly unless you have the prior written approval of a Probation Officer, or unless you are under the supervision and in the presence of an adult approved in writing by a Probation Officer.
- 12 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.
- 13 Not to enter or loiter near any school, early childhood education centre, park, library, swimming pool, other recreational facility, church, or other area specified in writing by a Probation Officer, unless you have the prior written approval of a Probation Officer, or unless an adult approved by a Probation Officer in writing, is present.

PROPOSED LENGTH OF RELEASE CONDITIONS

To Imprisonment sentence end date (28/04/2024)

MAIN REPORTING CENTRE TO WHICH OFFENDER IS TO REPORT ON RELEASE

Service Centre Wellington Main Reporting Centre
Address 31-33 Adelaide Road, Newtown, Wellington
Phone Number 04 802.1570

RRS Report Writer K Mcgilp

Probation Officer Name s 9(2)(a)

Offender Signature _____ **Date**

Signed by Departmental Representative

Signature _____ **Date**

Sources of Information

File Notes

Formative Assessments

Judges Sentencing Notes

Previous Board Reports

Offender Plan

Attachments

RELEASED UNDER THE OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT 1982

Arron Paul LAURENCE, s9(2)	20/12/2018
Offender name and date of birth	Date of request

Request for Information

Complete this form when making a request to an agency, department, service or individual for information. Keep a copy of the completed form on the offender's file.

1 Purpose of the request

To: NZ Police

The Department of Corrections requests information on the above named offender for the purposes of informing:

- a pre-sentence report to the Parole Board/Courts

2 Release of information

The request for information is made in accordance with the provisions under the following legislation:
(Delete options below that do not apply)

Principle 11 of the Privacy Act 1993

- (e) That non-compliance is necessary -
 - (i) To avoid prejudice to the maintenance of the law by any public sector agency, including the prevention, detention, investigation, prosecution, and punishment of offences; or
 - (iv) For the conduct of proceedings before any Court or Tribunal (being proceedings that have been commenced or are reasonably in contemplation); or
- (f) That the disclosure of the information is necessary to prevent or lessen a serious and imminent threat to -
 - (i) Public health or public safety; or
 - (ii) The life or health of the individual concerned or another individual;

3 Offender details and information sought

Surname LAURENCE Given names Arron Paul

Also known as

Date of birth (DD-MM-YY) s9(2)(a) PRN/DL s9(2)(a)

Address (if relevant) s9(2)(a), Newtown, Wellington

Comment on information sought Concerns or callout details relating to Arron Paul LAURENCE or any of the below occupants, within the last five years. In particular, details regarding family violence, gang or drug related callouts. Also request details of any current Protection Order where Arron Paul LAURENCE is the named respondent.

s9(2)(a)

Please contact the staff member named below to discuss this request. Alternatively this form will be followed by contact from the staff member to discuss the information requested.

Department of Corrections staff member details

Staff member	s9(2)(a)	Contact phone	s9(2)(a)
Service centre	Wellington	Alternative phone	s9(2)(a)
Address	31-33 Adelaide Road, Wellington	Email	s9(2)(a)

20/12/2018

Signature (not required if form is emailed)

Date

Offender Board Decision Report

Hearing Date: 12-AUG-2019

Offender Name:	CASTLE, Aaron Paul	PRN/DLicNo:	s9(2)(a)
Application Type:	PAROLE - POST-PED		Attended
Hearing Location:	ROLLESTON PRISON		
Hearing Outcome:	DECLINED		
Board Decision:			

1. Arron Paul Laurence was sentenced to 12 years and nine months' imprisonment for 65 offences which occurred between 1999 and 2011 including sexual violation, performing indecent acts on a number of boys aged between 10 and 14, some as young as eight, plus producing, possessing and distributing objectionable material.
2. The Board had previously noted his pattern of befriending young boys, inviting them home with promises of playing video games, plying them with food and cigarettes and sometimes cannabis and then sexually abusing them and recording the acts on camera. Police found more than 31,000 images on his devices, 98% of which were objectionable.
3. His prior history records only two minor drug offences.
4. His sentence commencement date was 3 May 2013 and his parole eligibility 27 January 2018, his sentence expiry date is 28 April 2024.
5. His underlying risk factors have been identified as alcohol and drugs, offence-related sexual arousal, offending supportive attitudes entitlement, unhelpful lifestyle balance and offending supportive associates.
6. He was last before the Board on 11 February 2019. He had done a Drug Treatment Unit Programme in 2014 and was scheduled for the Special Treatment Unit for child sex offenders. He had begun the programme at Kia Marama in September 2018 and was due to complete that by the middle of this year. There was then to be a period of post treatment assessment and the Board required an updated psychological assessment of risk and comment on his release plan and any future treatment required.
7. The Board has received a psychologist's report dated 12 July 2019 that confirms that he completed the core component of the Kia Marama STU in June of this year with what is reported as a good level of engagement. He was able to articulate what he had learned and anticipated spending time in the graduates group.
8. That report referred to earlier measurements and reports on his assessed risk and concluded, after a review of all of the earlier material, that Mr Laurence is currently considered still to be at a high risk of committing further sexual offences. Further sexual offending is likely to involve prepubescent or pubescent males whom he has groomed and befriended.
9. Mr Laurence was represented by counsel s9(2)(a) who realistically submitted that parole was not requested today. She advised that her instructions were that Mr Laurence was starting the graduate group and intended to complete that work and she asked that he be brought back before the Board in November.
10. In the view of the Board, given the seriousness of the risk of assessment in the light of all the material contained in that psychologist's report and the parole assessment report to the Board, Mr Laurence is considered still to pose an undue risk and the Board does not consider it likely that risk will have been significantly reduced by November.
11. Mr Laurence still has considerable time to serve on his sentence and in the view of the Board he has need to remain in the graduate group to reflect on the intellectualised approach which he is said to have been taking to the work in that group and to be able to demonstrate over a lengthy period the learning and gains he has made from the programme.
12. He will be seen by the Board again in 12 months, a date to be set before the end of August 2020.

Next Hearing Date: 01/08/2020



Parole Assessment Report (PAR) for New Zealand Parole Board

Parole Hearing Date		17/08/2020	
PRN: s 9(2)(a)		Date of Birth: s 9(2)(a)	Age: 46
Name: LAURENCE, Arron Paul			
Ethnicity: NEW ZEALAND EUROPEAN/PAKEHA			
Iwi: N/A		Hapu: N/A	
RoC Rol: s 9(2)(a)		ASRS: 1	
s 9(2)(a)	Gang Affiliations: No	Security Class: s 9(2)(a) Date of last classification: s 9(2)(a)	

Sentence Details

Parole Eligibility Date: 27/01/2018	Sentence Commencement Date: 03/05/2013	Statutory Release Date: 28/04/2024
Lead Offence and sentencing outcome: 12Years 9Months, UNLAWFUL SEXUAL CONNECTION MALE 12 TO 16		
Final Warnings: No		
Cumulative Sentences: No		Sentence Appeals: No (result)
Outstanding Charges: No		If yes indicated further details are provided in the attached sentence detail appendix.

Compliance Summary

At the time of writing this report, Mr Laurence resides in Totara Unit on the grounds of Rolleston Prison, he was transferred from the Kia Marama Unit in s 9(2)(a) having completed the core components of the Kia Marama Child Sex Offender Treatment Programme (CSOTP).

s 9(2)(a)

s 9(2)(a)

s 9(2)(a)

s 9(2)(a)

Risk Summary

s 9(2)(a)

In addressing these offending needs, he was identified for the KM CSOTP. He completed this programme in June 2019. s 9(2)(a)

In addition to this, the recommended condition to attend a psychological assessment upon release will provide further oversight to ensure his CSO Safety Planning remains current and robust when back in the community.

Due to the nature of Mr Laurence's offending, where he used online forum chatrooms in giving him access to some of his victims and the use of the playstation in some of his grooming activities, as well as in addition to this; he was found with objectionable images and videos, the internet conditions have been recommended. These would prohibit him from possessing any device capable of accessing the internet. This condition would mitigate his risk of him trying to obtain contact with vulnerable victims and this can be monitored meticulously by Community Corrections and the Police.

s 9(2)(a)

s 9(2)(a)

s 9(2)(a)

Partial Residential condition with a curfew 10p.m.-6a.m. is recommended in his initial release in supporting his reintegrating back into the community. Given his length of time in prison, this curfew would assist him in terms of having a positive structure and in his re-establishing of daily routines. s 9(2)(a)

Mr Laurence's pattern of offending involved grooming and befriending victims, (most unknown to him), who s 9(2)(a) were vulnerable, it is recommended the Global Positioning System (GPS) with a 'whereabouts condition' to not enter or loiter where children may congregate in mitigating his risk, this would provide Mr Laurence with the opportunity to reflect on areas where children under sixteen congregate so as to avoid these areas in the future, thereby reducing the risk of him accessing alternative avenues to gain access to potential vulnerable victims. In addition to this, in aligning with s 9(2)(a) managing any victim related issues, the whereabouts condition's exclusion zones to Not to enter Taranaki and to Not to enter Nelson is further recommended in addressing and managing any victim related issues.

It has been confirmed the NZPB Psychological Assessment Report will be finalised and available at his August board in providing an update on Mr Laurence treatment gains and risk.

s 9(2)(a)

Rehabilitation and Education Progress and Outcomes

As mentioned previously in the risk section, Mr Laurence has completed the CSOTP. s 9(2)(a)

9(2)(a)

s 9(2)(a)

s 9(2)(b)(i)

9(2)(a)

9(2)(a)

Community Based Rehabilitation

s 9(2)(a)

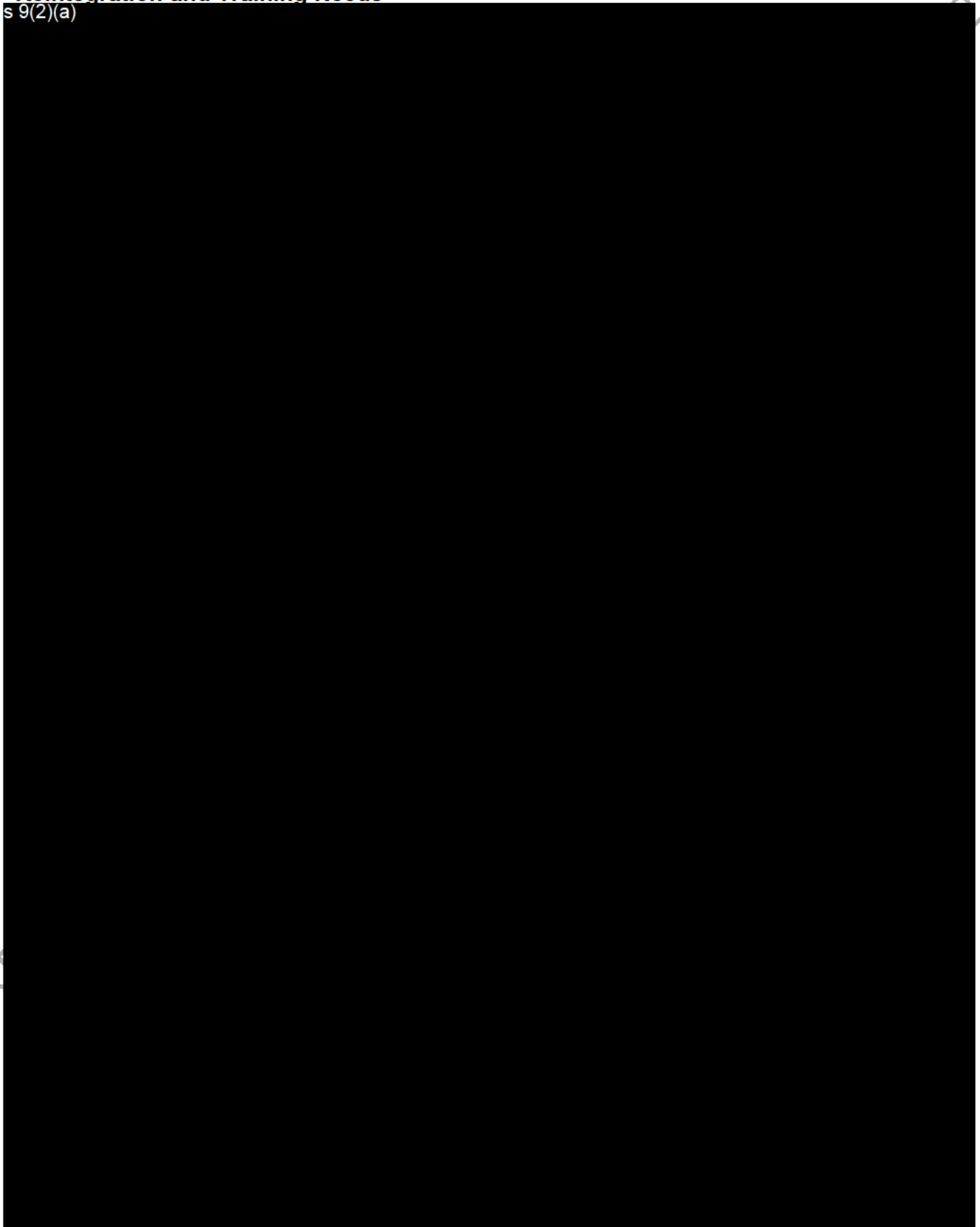
s 9(2)(a)

His attending the Departmental Psychologist in the community will further support his learnings and his CSO Safety Plan ensuring it remains robust and current.

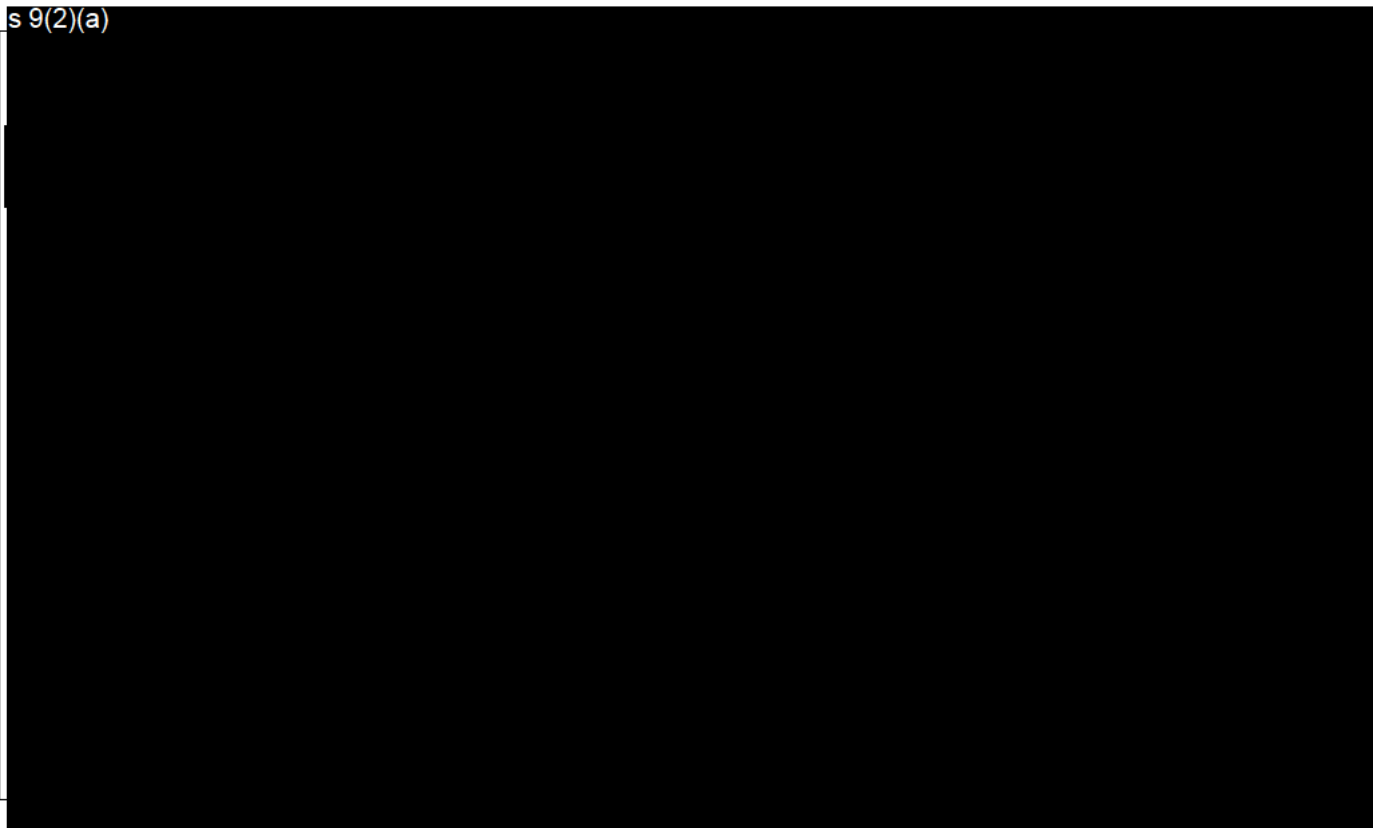
In attending the AOD assessment in the community will assess what is the most appropriate intervention: individual, group based or a residential programme in assisting him with reflecting and updating his Relapse Prevention Planning when back in the community.

Reintegration and Training Needs

s 9(2)(a)



s 9(2)(a)




Reintegration Plan

- **Accommodation**


Mr Laurence has proposed the release address s 9(2)(a), Newtown in Wellington.

s 9(2)(a)



s 9(2)(a)

s 9(2)(a)



The Residence condition is recommended for Mr Laurence to reside at his approved address and not move from this address without prior consent given by his Probation Officer. As mentioned in the Risk Section, Partial R&R with a curfew has been canvassed and is recommended in supporting his reintegrating back into the community. All occupants have consented and the property is technically suitable.

- **Primary Relationships/Whanau/family Support**

s 9(2)(a)



s 9(2)(a)



s 9(2)(a)



[REDACTED]

- **Other Community Support**

9(2)(a)

[REDACTED]

s 9(2)(a)

[REDACTED]

- **Employment**

s 9(2)(a)

9(2)(a)

[REDACTED]

9(2)(a)

[REDACTED]

s 9(2)(a)

[REDACTED]

s 9(2)(a)

[REDACTED]

Given the serious nature of his offending the employment condition is recommended to ensure he does not place himself in high risk situations as this would provide CC with oversight on suitability prior to engagement and address any potential s 9(2)(a).

- **Financial Issues**

9(2)(a)

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

- **Victim Issues**

s 9(2)(a), s 6(c)

In addition to this, he has through his completion of the CSOIP developed a CSO Safety Plan in s 9(2)(a).

[REDACTED]

Given the serious nature of his offending, the victim condition is recommended in addition to not to associate with children under 16 years of age condition will further address victim related issues.

Specialist Reports and Health

It has been confirmed the NZPB Psychological Assessment Report will be finalised and available at his August board in providing an update on Mr Laurence treatment gains and risk.

s 9(2)(a)

[REDACTED]

Proposed Special Conditions and Length

To reside at s 9(2)(a) Newtown, Wellington or any other 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.

Upon release from prison, to travel directly to s 9(2)(a), Newtown, Wellington and await the arrival of a Probation Officer and a representative from the monitoring company.

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 [10:00pm] and [06:00am] daily, unless you have the prior written approval of a Probation Officer, or as permitted by section 33(4) of the Parole Act 2002.

To submit to electronic monitoring as directed by a Probation Officer in order to monitor your compliance with any conditions relating to your whereabouts.

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.

Not to enter or loiter near any place where children under 16 are congregating unless you have the prior written approval of a Probation Officer, or unless an adult who has been approved by a Probation Officer in writing, is present.

Not to enter Taranaki as defined by a Probation Officer in writing unless you have the prior written approval of a Probation Officer.

Not to enter Nelson as defined by a Probation Officer in writing unless you have the prior written approval of a Probation Officer.

To attend a psychological assessment and attend, participate in and complete any recommended treatment as directed by a Probation Officer.

To attend an assessment for a departmental programme/maintenance group, and attend, participate in and adhere to the rules of the programme/maintenance group as directed by a Probation Officer.

To attend an alcohol and drug assessment, and attend, participate in and complete any treatment or counselling directed by a Probation Officer.

Not to possess, use, or consume alcohol, controlled drugs or psychoactive substances except controlled drugs prescribed for you by a health professional.

Upon request, to make available to a Probation Officer, or his or her agent, any electronic device capable of accessing the internet that is used by you, or is in your possession or control, for the purpose of monitoring your use of the device.

Not to possess or use any electronic device capable of accessing internet or capturing, storing, accessing or distributing images (including without limitation any personal computer, notebooks, tablets or cell phones) without prior written approval from a by a Probation Officer.

Not to have contact or otherwise associate, with a person under the age of 16 years, directly or indirectly unless you have the prior written approval of a Probation Officer, or unless you are under the supervision and in the presence of an adult approved in writing by a Probation Officer.

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.

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.

To attend a reintegration meeting as directed by a Probation Officer.

Standard and Special Conditions to apply to Mr Laurence's Sentence End Date: 28 April 2024.

Reporting Centre: Wellington Main Reporting Centre

Sources of Information: Parole Interview with Mr Laurence, Offender Notes, Offender Plan, previous Parole Report, JSN, previous Psychological Assessment Report, Treatment Report, liaising with KMRC, CEP collaboration process with CC

Report up to date as of(date)

Case Manager s9(2)(a) .

Signed by

Prisoner LAURENCE, Arron Paul

Signed by

Appendix Report: *Sentence details of any cumulative sentences, sentence appeals or outstanding charges before the courts.*

RELEASED UNDER THE OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT 1982

Child Sex Offender Notification Assessment and Planning Tool

Offender: **Arron Paul LAURENCE**

Report Date: **5th September 2020**

PRN: **s9(2)(a)**

DoB: **s9(2)(a)**

Sentence:

Address: **s9(2)(a)**, Newtown, Wellington 6021, New Zealand

Criteria for Inclusion

The offender has been released and is subject to Parole for a child sex offence.

Offender's Current Circumstances

Arron Laurence was released from Rimutaka Prison on 1 September 2020 and is subject to Parole until 28 April 2024. He is liable for recall until his sentence end date. He completed the Child Sex Offender Treatment Programme (CSOTP) and the maintenance phase of this treatment. He has successfully completed the Drug Treatment Programme (DTP).

Mr Laurence was released to reside in private accommodation in Newtown, Wellington. This address is occupied by **s9(2)(a)**. The pair have been supportive of Mr Laurence throughout the sentencing process and his subsequent Imprisonment. **s9(2)(a)**

In addition to **s9(2)(a)**, Mr Laurence has support from **s9(2)(a)** and a long term friend, **s9(2)(a)**.

s9(2)(a) are aware of the potential for neighbourhood notification. They are supportive of this and believe it would be beneficial in regards to risk mitigation.

s9(2)(a) **s6(c), s9(2)(a)**

s9(2)(a) The Parole Report has assessed the address as suitable and is technically feasible for electronic monitoring, with Partial Residential Restrictions and GPS whereabouts considered appropriate.

s9(2)(a)

s9(2)(a)

Previous Offending Pattern

Mr Laurence has no prior convictions for sexual offending. **s9(2)(a)**

s9(2)(a) His sexual offending took place over more than 10 years and only stopped as a result of his arrest.

The victims of Mr Laurence's offending were young males within his community who he would befriend, **s9(2)**

s9(2)(a). Mr Laurence groomed his victims through invitations to his home where he would provide food, cigarettes, drugs or access to gaming consoles. He made efforts to make his home feel like a safe environment for them. There were occasions in which Mr Laurence gained access to his victims by building a relationship of trust with their parents and undertaking babysitting responsibilities.

s9(2)(a)

In addition to Mr Laurence's offending related sexual arousal, his inability to manage stress and his tendency to abuse substances have been identified as contributing factors.

Risk Information

s9(2)(a)

ASRS: 1

STABLE/ACUTE 2007 (if available):

ESO Formal Review (if available):

Name suppression: NO

Media profile (Google the offender's name): YES

CSO Registry Tactical Subject Profile available? NO

Treatment/interventions completed: Kia Marama and Drug Treatment Unit

s6(c), s9(2)

Victim issues: It is concerning the proposed address is in Newtown, s9(2)(a) and within proximity of a number of schools, the closest being s9(2)(a) away. s6(c), s9(2)(a) In addition, conditions not to associate with those under the age of 16 years and not to enter any location where they would likely congregate, have been recommended, along with GPS monitoring to oversee compliance. The s6(c), s9(2)(a)

. The images/videos distributed through the internet of Mr Laurence's offending can not be retrieved resulting continuous victimisation. However, it is proposed Mr Laurence is prevented from possessing or owning electronic devices to mitigate the risk of further such offending.

Future risk scenario (likely victim and context): Prepubescent or pubescent vulnerable male groomed by Mr Laurence who will invite them to his home to play game consoles and provide them with food, alcohol or other drugs. Mr Laurence may develop a relationship with the parents of a child and subsequently gain alone time by offering to babysit.

Potential to reoffend (summary of all available information):

Mr Laurence has completed the CSOTP and DTP while in custody. Through this intervention, he will have been provided the opportunity to complete a safety plan, which can be implemented in the community. Should the proposed special conditions be imposed, he would have access to on-going support in these areas in conjunction with a number of restrictions placed on his movements through GPS and Partial Residential Restrictions.

It is acknowledged Mr Laurence offended over a significant period of time victimising a large number of children through both contact and non-contact sexual offending, which only stopped as a result of Mr Laurence being caught. Furthermore, there are concerns the address may be placing Mr Laurence in a high risk situation given proximity to schools s9(2)(a)

Should Mr Laurence face a stressful situation or resort to substance abuse to manage this s9(2)(a), his risk of reoffending would be considered high-very

high. However, on the basis of the successful completion of relevant treatment, pro-social support in the community and the potential for the imposition of a number of external mitigating factors through the proposed special conditions, while acknowledging concerns regarding the address, Mr Laurence's risk of reoffending in a sexual manner would be considered medium-high.

Risk Management Strategies

Treatment outcomes/recommendations: In 2014, Mr Laurence successfully completed the Drug Treatment Programme. In June 2019, Mr Laurence completed the core phase of the CSOTP and is scheduled to commence the maintenance phase in July 2019. This phase will focus on Mr Laurence implementing his learning's and constructing a robust safety plan.

To provide the opportunity for Mr Laurence to consolidate his learning's from CSOTP and to revisit his safety plan regularly, attendance at s9(2)(a) [REDACTED], a monthly relapse prevention group, is recommended. In addition, attendance at an alcohol and drug assessment along with intervention from a Departmental Psychologist, has been proposed.

It has also been requested that conditions be imposed restricting Mr Laurence from associating with those under the age of 16 and the victims of his offending. Furthermore, that he be prevented from using alcohol, drugs and electronic devices along with GPS to monitor his whereabouts and an evening curfew through Partial Residential Restrictions.

Pre-release planning: A pre-release hui to place at Wellington Probation with Mr Laurence, key support people, Probation, Case Management and a representative from Kia Marama.

Victim considerations: As noted, given the location of the proposed address, the likelihood for incidental contact with children in the area is considered high. There would be a level of reliance on external mitigation strategies such as electronic monitoring, a Probation Officer, the assigned CSOR Police Case Manager and Mr Laurence himself, to manage this risk. He is subject to the Victim Notification Register also.

Police involvement: Mr Laurence will be assigned a Police Case Manager for the Child Sex Offender Register. Police were contacted in relation to the Parole Report and more information is currently being sought, as the initial response was not overly robust.

Frequency of contact/HVs: It is recommended Mr Laurence be seen on a weekly basis with alternating home visits being conducted to allow for an assessment around the on-going suitability of his address to occur, and as he may be subject to electronic monitoring.

Special Conditions

1. To reside at [REDACTED], Newtown, Wellington, or any other 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. 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.
3. Not to have contact or otherwise associate, with a person under the age of 16 years, directly or indirectly unless you have the prior written approval of a Probation Officer, or unless you are under the supervision and in the presence of an adult approved in writing by a Probation Officer.
4. Not to enter or loiter near any school, early childhood education centre, park, library, swimming pool, other recreational facility, church, or other area specified in writing by a Probation Officer, unless you have the prior written approval of a Probation Officer, or unless an adult approved by a Probation Officer in writing, is present.
5. 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.

6. 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 7pm and 7am daily, unless you have the prior written approval of a Probation Officer, or as permitted by section 33(4) of the Parole Act 2002.

7. 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.

8. Upon release from prison, to travel directly to s9(2)(a) [REDACTED], Newtown, Wellington and await the arrival of a representative from the monitoring company.

9. Not to possess, use, or consume alcohol, controlled drugs or psychoactive substances except controlled drugs prescribed for you by a health professional.

10. To attend an alcohol and drug assessment, and attend, participate in and complete any treatment or counselling directed by a Probation Officer.

11. To attend a psychological assessment and attend, participate in and complete any recommended treatment as directed by a Probation Officer.

12. To attend, participate in and complete s9(2)(a) [REDACTED], or an equivalent community-based maintenance group for graduates of Kia Marama Child Sex Offender Treatment Programme, as directed by a Probation Officer.

13. Not to possess or use any electronic device capable of accessing the internet, other than a device that has been approved in writing by a Probation Officer.

Notification Considerations

Given Mr Laurence's grooming behaviours and his previous efforts to normalise sexual behaviour with his victims over a period of time before initiating more serious offending, combined with the concerns regarding the proximity to schools in Newtown and proposal for him to reside [REDACTED], it is assessed neighbourhood notification would ensure parents and local schools can increase vigilance, increasing the likelihood that any inappropriate behaviours would be escalated in a timely manner. However, it is noted the occupants of the proposed address may be opposed to neighbour notification, which could result in a loss of accommodation for Mr Laurence.

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Notorious art-dealing paedophile released from jail

Tom Hunt • 15:20, Sep 07 2020



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A notorious lower North Island paedophile, whose offending included depraved acts on boys as young as 7 years old and is deemed at high risk of reoffending, has been released from jail.

The Parole Board has confirmed Aaron Paul Laurence, 46, was released from prison on September 1 with a long list of conditions he must adhere to.

According to the decision, he attended a child sex offender course in 2019 but was still deemed by a psychologist as being at "high risk" of reoffending. By the time he appeared before the board on August 18, his risk was deemed on the "high side".

However, in its decision the board said it was satisfied his release conditions would be adequate.

Laurence, who once owned an art gallery on Wellington's Lambton Quay called the Aaron Laurence Gallery, [pleaded guilty in 2012 to 65 charges of abuse, including the rape of young boys and the production and distribution of footage of their ordeals](#).

READ MORE:

- * [Man who gave teen alcohol before sexually assaulting her denied parole](#)
- * [Parole denied for violent offender who got gang patch behind bars](#)
- * [Taranaki gang member given 'very glowing' prison report granted parole](#)

The Parole decision noted he would befriend victims and lure them to his home for video games and give rewards such as cigarettes and cannabis.

"They were then abused and the results recorded on video and promulgated."



STUFF

Aaron Laurence when he appeared in the Lower Hutt District Court in 2012.

During his case, [Stuff reported police](#) found his stash of child sexual abuse images hidden in a mire of computer encryptions and passwords. More than 31,000 images and videos were found.

A local artist, who asked not to be named, in 2012 told *Stuff* that Laurence was "always talking about his sexual prowess".

"He was always a dodgy geezer. He seemed pretty immoral every time you hung out with him. He wasn't exactly someone you wanted to spend extended lengths of time with."



STUFF

Aaron Laurence got parole despite still posing a risk.

Sentencing notes from 2013 catalogued much of his offending including sexual abuse of multiple young boys, one as young as seven-years-old.

Laurence's prolific offending finally ended when he was caught by police in an online sting in July 2011. A detective was able to monitor an internet chat involving Laurence.

The next day, police observed Laurence making statements that he had abused boys and had images available to download.

The police summary of facts said Laurence sexually abused eight victims, electronically recording his exploits.

MORE FROM

TOM HUNT • SENIOR REPORTER

tom.hunt@stuff.co.nz

"In many instances these boys did not know they were being filmed as the camera was hidden, or they were filmed and abused when they were asleep."

Laurence would target vulnerable children and groom victims, the summary said.

monitoring. He could leave his approved accommodation between 6am and 1pm.

Sensible Sentencing Trust spokeswoman Jess McVicar said there was increasing concern over the release of high-risk offenders.

"We do not have a robust system to monitor them, Corrections are already over run. The community safety seems to no longer be the paramount consideration within parole decisions, but it should be their most important concern."

It appeared there was no system to alert communities where people such as Laurence were moving in, McVicar said.

"There has been no consideration for the victims with this early release. He has multiple victims who will suffer the ongoing trauma of what they endured by his selfish deviant behaviour."

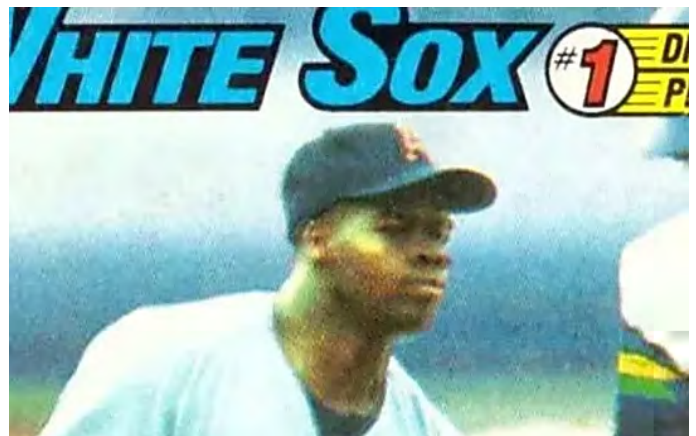
Cheers, Aotearoa. Thank you to our readers who have already supported Stuff's reporting. **Contribute today** to help our journalists bring you independent New Zealand news you can trust.

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Community placement suitability assessment and placement approval for child sex offenders

The first part of this document is to be completed by the **Probation Officer** when considering accommodation for a child sex offender. Should the recommendation of the assessment be that the proposed address is suitable, the Probation Officer should send the form to the **Service Manager** to complete the rest of the form.

Offender details	Information collected
Name and PRN	Arron LAURENCE, s9(2)(a)
Age	44 s9(2)(a)
Offending history and type	<p>Possess objectionable publication x 5, Made/copied/supplied objectionable publication x 18, Unlawful sexual connection male under 12 x 7, Unlawful sexual connection male 12-16 x 8, Does indecent act with/upon boy under 12 x 18, Does indecent act with/upon male 12-16 x 2, Indecent assault on boy between 12-16 x 5, Indecent assault on boy under 12 x 2.</p> <p>Previous offending: Possess pipe for cannabis, Possess cannabis plant.</p>
Accommodation	
Proposed address	s9(2)(a), Newtown, Wellington
Any special conditions precluding placement	<p>Would be subject to Parole conditions, have not yet been set by NZPB.</p> <p>Likely conditions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Not to contact under-16s unless with permission from a PO. - Not to possess or consume alcohol or illicit drugs (occupants have alcohol displayed at the property). - Not to possess electronic devices capable of accessing the internet. - Not to possess electronic devices capable of recording or distributing images or video recordings. - GPS monitoring with whereabouts condition not to enter parks, schools, etc. - Partial residential restrictions (7pm-7am curfew). - Psychological assessment. - Alcohol and drug assessment. - To complete s9(2)(a) or alternative maintenance programme for graduates of Kia Marama child sex offender treatment programme.
Proximity to places designed for children, including schools, ECE's and playgrounds	s9(2)(a)

	s9(2)(a)
Type	Standalone house
Ownership of the property	s9(2)(a)
Physical space available for the offender	Own room
Accessibility of public transport	Nearest bus stop within 300m of property.
Telephone	s9(2)(a)
Mobile phone reception	Y – no issues. EM has been canvassed; passed for both GPS and RF.
Electricity	Set – monthly bill.
Proximity to nearest Community Corrections Site	s9(2) from Wellington Community Corrections. s9(2)(a)
Presence of potential blocks to EM signal	s9(2)(a). No identified issues with EM reception, but occupants advise should issues arise, s9(2)(a)
Questions for occupant(s)	
Number of occupants/names/relationships/length of relationship with offender	Two occupants – s9(2)(a)
Is/are the occupant(s) aware of conditions and order requirements	Yes – aware of court proceedings, nature of charge, nature of previous offending, likely recommended conditions on Parole, and EM conditions. Supportive of Arron, no issues raised.
Is/are the occupant(s) aware of the offender's criminal history and the circumstances around the current offending?	Yes
Are there any children who may be at risk from the offender, who may visit the address?	No
Is/are the occupant(s) aware of any issues concerning the offender and any person in the home that are likely to lead to distress or aggression?	No
Is/are the occupant(s) aware of any person in the household that has any gang associations?	No
Is/are the occupant(s) aware of any protection order in place naming the offender?	No

Have the police ever been called to the home, or to any previous address the occupant(s) has/have shared with the offender? If so, when and in what circumstances?	No
Has/have the occupant(s) ever feared for their safety as a result of the offender's actions?	No
Has the offender ever intentionally caused damage to the property, or to property in the home?	No
Is/are the occupant(s) aware of any substance abuse habits of the offender?	Yes – s9(2)(a) [REDACTED], and occupants are aware Arron may have a Parole condition not to possess or consume alcohol. s9(2)(a) [REDACTED]
Assessment of address/occupant(s)	
Any presence of firearms/weapons	No
Any presence of dog/s on site	No
Does/do the occupant(s) consent to criminal history check?	Yes
Any concerns about the reaction of the occupant(s)?	No. Occupants are cognisant of likely issues and high risk situations, are willing and able to support Arron should he be released. Demonstrated strong awareness of the barriers to reintegration for Arron, and raised issue of neighbourhood notification – asked if they were responsible for this. Are aware of the NN process, and are willing and able to cooperate with this if required.
Environmental scan	
Information from Senior Advisor Community Engagement and Reintegration	Please see attached document.
Risk of contact with associates	Minimal – associates are not considered to be related to Arron's likelihood of reoffending. s9(2)(a) [REDACTED]
Is the address suitable in terms of victim locale? Include VNR check	Offender is subject to VNR. Address is suitable as per VNR.
Presence of children in the neighbourhood	No significant presence of children noted in neighbourhood. Schools in area but minimal foot traffic as is hilly. Immediate neighbours are known to occupants and are known to not have children.
Third Party Inquiries	
Police check (intel)	No response received yet.
Police advice (Police Case Manager)	
Criminal history check on occupants	s9(2)(a) [REDACTED]
High Risk Response Team advice	N/A
Other relevant information from the	http://tatou.corrections.govt.nz/pmq/probation/cps_practice

considerations in the practice guidance

[centre/tools and processes/processes/address/assessing-the-suitability-of-an-address/assessing an address for child sex offenders](#)

Recommendation of Probation Officer:

Suitable

Rationale: Residing with a friend and friend's friend. Both are aware of offending and report being supportive. Occupants appear aware of risks and not collusive with Arron's offending. Neighbourhood is likely to have children and vulnerable people in the area, but foot traffic around the address of persons under 16 years likely to be low. Property is suitable for electronic monitoring. Neighbourhood Notifications may be appropriate, given the presence of grooming behaviour evident in Mr Laurence's offending.

Probation Officer: s9(2)(a)

Date: 7 September 2020

For Service Manager to complete

This form is to be accompanied by a Google aerial and street view of the proposed address.

I approve/do not approve this community placement for this offender (circle one)

Rationale:

Name:

Role:

Relevant Decision Maker

Date:

IOMS updated

Copy of approval on offender file

CSO notification register updated

FRONTLINE

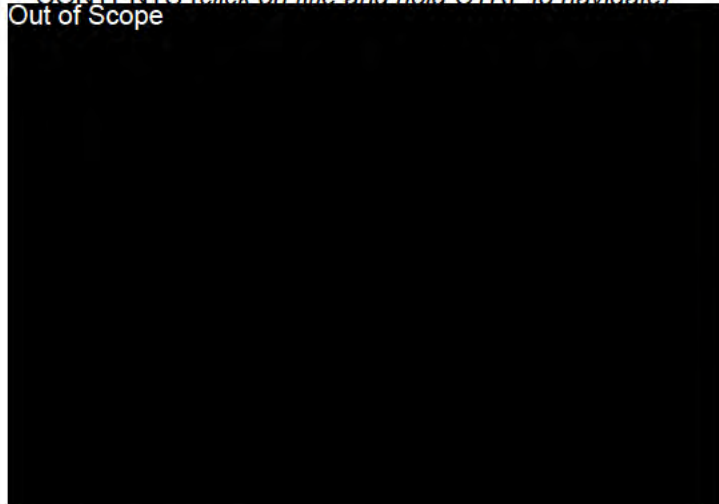


DEPARTMENT OF
CORRECTIONS
ARA POUTAMA AOTEAROA

Operational updates for frontline staff
20th March – 26th March 2017

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Out of Scope



CSO Accommodation

Out of Scope



CASE MANAGEMENT

CSO Accommodation

Out of Scope



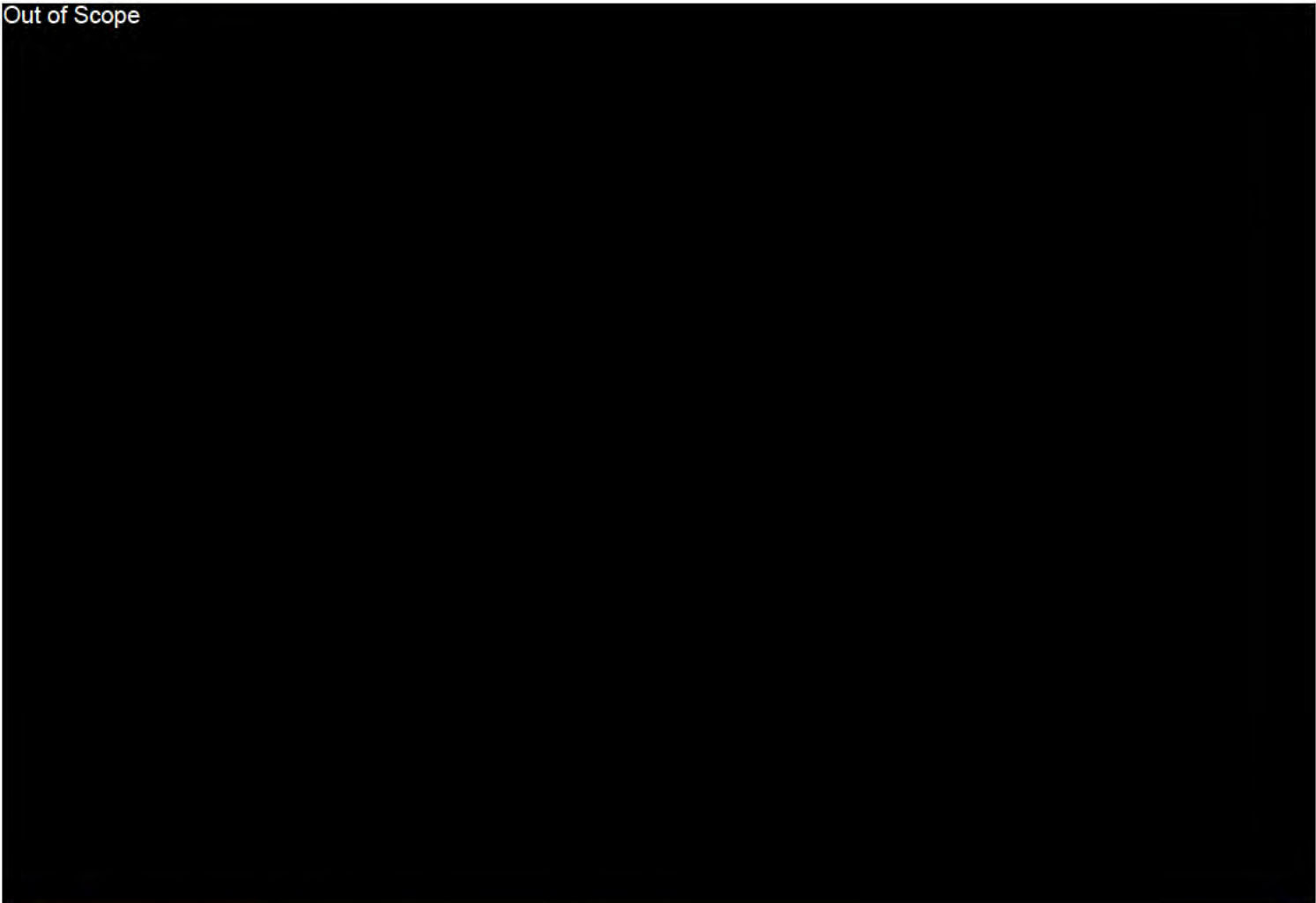
MARCH 2017						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
		01	02	03	04	05
06	07	08	09	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

Key Dates:

20/03/2017 – Otago Anniversary Day.

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Out of Scope



CSO Accommodation

To: Community Probation and Case Management.
From: Service Development, National Office.
When: 27 March 2017.

In short: New practice guidance regarding assessing the suitability of accommodation for CSOs is now on the Community Probation Practice Centre and comes into effect on 27 March 2017. There is a new form to be completed as part of an updated process which provides for a more transparent approach to decision making as well as criteria for making decisions about CSOs on specific sentences. The guidance is also relevant for when a CSO is proposing to change address and also in the preparation of all parole assessment reports (PAR) and provision of advice to courts (PAC). It is important to note that the guidance doesn't have retrospective effect. However, if the risk or circumstances change regarding a previously approved address, then the new process should be applied.

Action: All PO's/SM's/CM's/PCM's to be aware of the new guidance and required forms.

Contact: If you have any questions please contact **s9(2)(a)**.

Approved: Darius Fagan, Chief Probation Officer.

[Return to contents](#)

CSO Accommodation

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From: Service Development, National Office.
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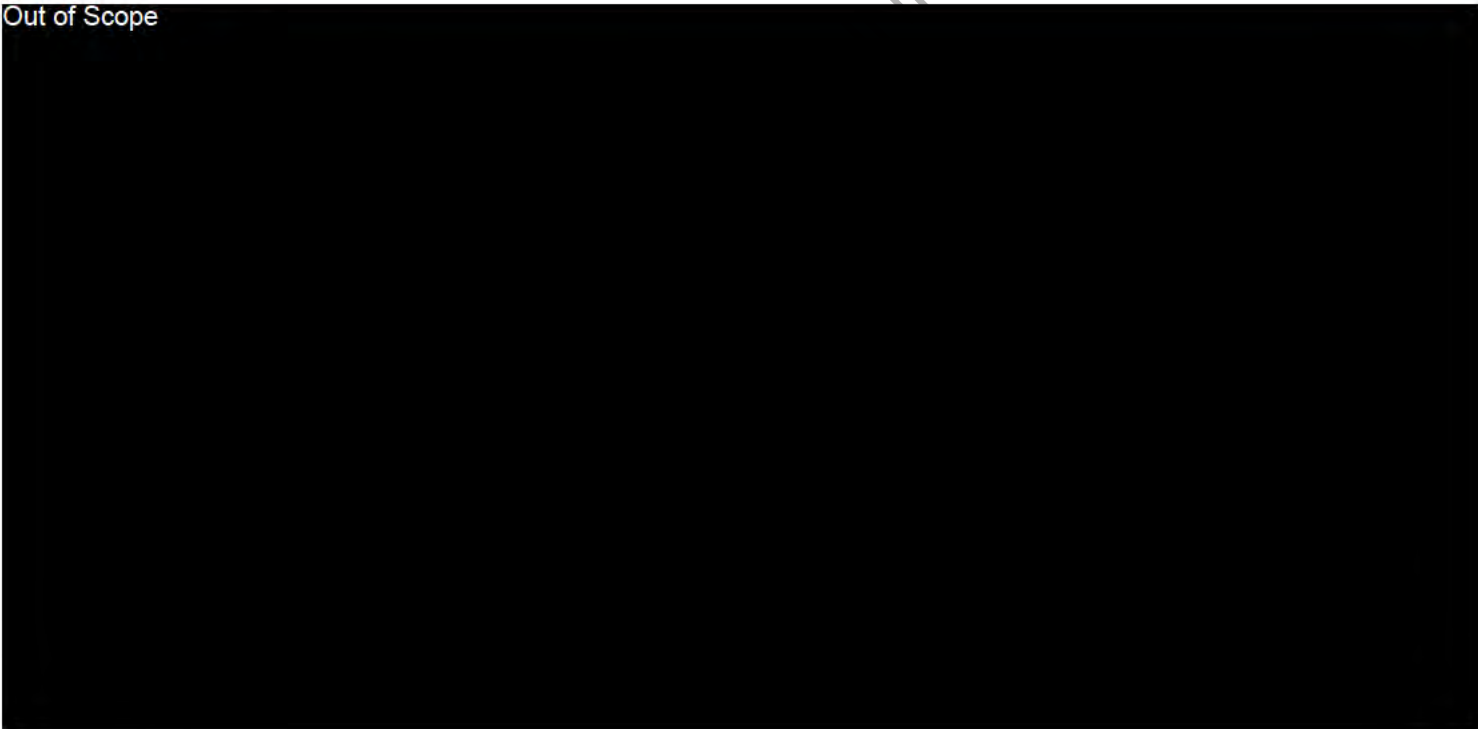
Action: All PO's/SM's/CM's/PCM's to be aware of the new guidance and required forms.

Contact: If you have any questions please contact **s9(2)(a)**.

Approved: Darius Fagan, Chief Probation Officer.

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Out of Scope



FRONTLINE



Operational updates for frontline staff
14th August – 20th August 2017

CONTENTS *(click on title and hold CTRL to navigate)*


Out of Scope

AUGUST 2017						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
	01	02	03	04	05	06
07	08	09	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

Community placement suitability assessment and placement approval for child sex offenders – form updated

Out of Scope

Out of Scope



Community placement suitability assessment and placement approval for child sex offenders – form updated

To: All Community Probation staff.
From: Service Development, National Office.
When: Immediately.

In short: The form that is completed by Probation Officers and elevated to either Service Manager, District Manager or Operations Director approval level, has had some minor updates.

Action: Please find updated form on the practice centre or click here:
http://coronet.corrections.govt.nz/_data/assets/word_doc/0007/881458/Community_placement_suitability_assessment_24.11.16.docx

More info: For more information contact s9(2)(a), Acting Principal Practice Adviser, ext. s9(2)

Approved by: Darius Fagan, Chief Probation Officer.

[Return to contents](#)

Community placement suitability assessment and placement approval for child sex offenders

The first part of this document is to be completed by the **Probation Officer** when considering accommodation for a child sex offender. Should the recommendation of the assessment be that the proposed address is suitable, the Probation Officer should send the form to the **Service Manager** to complete the rest of the form.

Offender details	Information collected
Name and PRN	
Age	
Offending history and type	
Accommodation	
Proposed address	
Any special conditions precluding placement	
Proximity to places designed for children, including schools, ECE's and playgrounds	<i>This could also include club premises, skate parks, other appealing places for children</i>
Type	<i>House, flat, caravan, boarding house etc</i>
Ownership of the property	<i>Owned, rented, HNZ</i>
Physical space available for the offender	<i>i.e., own room or sleeping in lounge with others</i>
Accessibility of public transport	<i>Bus/train – walking distance?</i>
Telephone	<i>Landline/mobile. Number?</i>
Mobile phone reception	<i>Y/N... Quality</i>
Electricity	<i>Set or prepaid?</i>
Proximity to	<i>Approximate distance/time to get there</i>

nearest Community Corrections Site	
Presence of potential blocks to EM signal	<i>i.e., garages, steel structures</i>
Questions for occupant(s)	
Number of occupants/nam es/relationships /length of relationship with offender	
Is/are the occupant(s) aware of conditions and order requirements	
Is/are the occupant(s) aware of the offender's criminal history and the circumstances around the current offending?	
Are there any children who may be at risk from the offender, who may visit the address?	
Is/are the occupant(s) aware of any issues concerning the offender and any person in the home that are likely to lead to distress or aggression?	<i>e.g., relationship issues or house rules</i>
Is/are the occupant(s) aware of any person in the household that has any gang associations?	
Is/are the occupant(s) aware of any protection	

order in place naming the offender?	
Have the police ever been called to the home, or to any previous address the occupant(s) has/have shared with the offender? If so, when and in what circumstances?	
Has/have the occupant(s) ever feared for their safety as a result of the offender's actions?	
Has the offender ever intentionally caused damage to the property, or to property in the home?	<i>i.e., punching or kicking walls or doors</i>
Is/are the occupant(s) aware of any substance abuse habits of the offender?	
Assessment of address/occupant(s)	
Any presence of firearms/weapons	
Any presence of dog/s on site	
Does/do the occupant(s) consent to criminal history check?	
Any concerns about the reaction of the occupant(s)?	
Environmental scan	
Information	<i>Copy and Paste ALL relevant information</i>

from Senior Advisor Community Engagement and Reintegration	
Risk of contact with associates	
Is the address suitable in terms of victim locale? Include VNR check	<i>Previous and potential victims</i>
Presence of children in the neighbourhood	<i>Regardless of target victim group</i> <i>No placements will be approved where an ESO and above is located next door to children, including where there is shared access/driveways</i>
Third Party Inquiries	
Police check (intel)	
Police advice (Police Case Manager)	
Criminal history check on occupants	
High Risk Response Team advice	<i>This only applies for ESO's and above</i>
Other relevant information from the considerations in the practice guidance	(https://tatou.corrections.govt.nz/pmg/ara_poutama_practice_centre/probation/probation_practice_guidance_and_information_pages/guidance_listings/offending_related_needs/sexual_offending/)

Recommendation of Probation Officer:

Suitable/not suitable (circle one)

Rationale:

Probation Officer:

Date:

For Service Manager to complete

This form is to be accompanied by a Google aerial and street view of the proposed address.

I approve/do not approve this community placement for this offender (circle one)

Rationale:

Name:

Role:

Relevant Decision Maker

Date:

IOMS updated	
Copy of approval on offender file	
CSO notification register updated	

Assessing the Suitability of an Address for Child Sex Offenders

On this page

This guidance only relates to CSOs as defined by [s182B of the Corrections Act](#). That means they are currently serving a sentence/order (i.e., it is their index offence) for a relevant CSO conviction.

Decisions around placing child sex offenders in suitable accommodation need to be robust. They must provide for the needs of the person as well as for the safety of the communities in which they are placed. Approved addresses need to support the safety of children and a number of considerations must be made to ensure the overall wellbeing of the community is upheld. In some cases, approval needs to be sought at higher levels of management.

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CSO_Address_approval_proce...

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The following guidance is for assessing any addresses CSO's, whether the proposed address is to be temporary or a permanent address. The guidance is to be applied to all aspects of CSO management - for parole assessment reports, provision of advice to Court (including EM), and for sentence/order management for offenders and EM Bail reports.

Historical child sex offending should always be a consideration, but the process is not a requirement in those cases.

Who can Approve an Address?

The following table shows the approval level required for placement of people who are high risk and have complex needs subject to each sentence/order

Sentence / Order	Approval Level
ESO (for sexual offending against children) with Intensive Monitoring	Operations Director
People for whom an ESO application has been made (for sexual offending against children)*	District Manager
ESO (for sexual offending against children)	District Manager
Preventive Detention	District Manager
Parole	Service Manager (or delegated LSM)
Returning Offender Order	Service Manager (or delegated LSM)

Sentence / Order	Approval Level
EM Bail	Service Manager (or delegated LSM)
All other sentences/orders	Service Manager (or delegated LSM)

***Note:** This incorporates people with active ESO applications, and those for whom an application for an ESO has been made and declined by the Court.

Process for Assessing an Address

Any person subject to ESO-IM, ESO or PD for sexual offending against children, is not to live with children or reside next door to children under 16 and nor are they able to be placed within 500 metres (walking or driving distance) of a place designed for children.

- In cases where an otherwise suitable address does not meet this requirement and the practitioner assesses that an override might be suitable, they must include the rationale for pursuing the address on the [Community Accommodation Suitability Assessment form](#). The Service Manager may then endorse the override and where necessary, escalate to the appropriate level for approval.
- For other cases, an individualised assessment is required and the decision would sit with the SM for approval. This can be escalated to LSM/DM in appropriate cases.
- If the proposed address is assessed by the Probation Officer as not viable, based on the initial analysis and communication with the SA CEAR, a case-note must be written in IOMS with rationale for not completing the approval form. However, if the address suitability check is for a pre-sentence report or parole assessment report, the form must be completed as the final decision sits with the Judge or the Parole Board.

[Collapse all](#)

Supported Accommodation Previously Assessed as Suitable

District Managers are responsible for approving supported accommodation addresses. Addresses of this nature will be annually reviewed for suitability by the DM in conjunction with the Service Provider on a regular basis (at least annually).

Considerations

Considerations for approving addresses are included in the Community placement suitability assessment and placement approval form

Further to these, Probation Officer's consider the following:

What is the assessed risk of the person?

Does the victim of their offending reside in this community?

Are there other child sex offenders in the area?

- What is the distance from address?
- Are they known to the person?

Does the person need to travel past places designed for children?

- If so, what is the nature of this? (on foot or by vehicle, age range of children, what hours)

What other vulnerable groups are present in the area?

Is the address in a cul-de-sac or shared driveway?

- How might this compromise safety?

What degree of privacy and security is this property likely to offer?

Is the address proposed compatible with the person's special conditions?

Is the person going back into the community they have been a part of/is familiar to them?

- What community supports might be available to this person that are safe and unlikely to compromise the person's ability to remain safe?
- Is suitable public transport available (if required)?
- Does the person possess a drivers licence and if so, what type?

Is the physical address technically suited for electronic/GPS monitoring

Required Actions for all CSO's

Required Actions for Assessing a CSO Address



Initial sweep of 500m (walking by most direct route) from the address to identify places designed for children, and then determine the most direct route through physical checks of the neighbourhood

Conduct reasonable checks to ascertain where children are in the neighbourhood

VNR check

Information from Police Intelligence, and where possible the Police case manager for people subject to the CSO Register

Check against special conditions that may preclude placement

If relevant, the address must be suitable for EM (through an on site feasibility check)

Ensure any occupants are aware of the nature of the offending and its circumstances

Child Sex Offender Living with or Proposing to live with Children

Child sex offenders are rarely permitted to live with children under 16 and will only be authorised to do so in exceptional circumstances. **The Regional Operations Director only must approve this.**

If a child sex offender is approved to reside at an address with children, the Ministry for Children, Oranga Tamariki must be notified.

Reasonable Checks When Assessing Presence of Children in the Neighbourhood

Checks should be made of any adjoining properties, those properties with shared access and the properties in line of sight of the proposed address.

- Staff should be looking for obvious signs of children, which may include:
 - Children's clothes/school uniforms on washing lines
 - Toys/sandpits/swings/trampolines

- Small bicycles
- Children themselves
- Staff should assess foot traffic **8-9am** and **3-4pm**
 - Clusters of signs should indicate a significant presence of children in the neighbourhood and hence should be included in the assessment of the address forwarded to the relevant approver.

Possible Actions

Possible Actions for Assessing a CSO Address



Liaise with High Risk Response Team

Liaise with Psychology

Liaise with Ministry for Vulnerable Children, Oranga Tamariki

Change in the Person's Circumstances

In the event that a person subject to an ESO-IM, ESO or PD has a change of circumstances, i.e., a family with a child or children move next door, a [memo for change in circumstance](#) is required to the approver (**Operations Director or District Manager**) which outlines the change in circumstances and includes an updated risk assessment.

Dynamic assessment and reassessment of addresses for child sex offenders will be required on an ongoing basis.

Senior Advisors - Community Engagement and Reintegration

The [Senior Advisors Community Engagement and Reintegration](#) critical role in assessing the suitability of an address for a child sex offender.

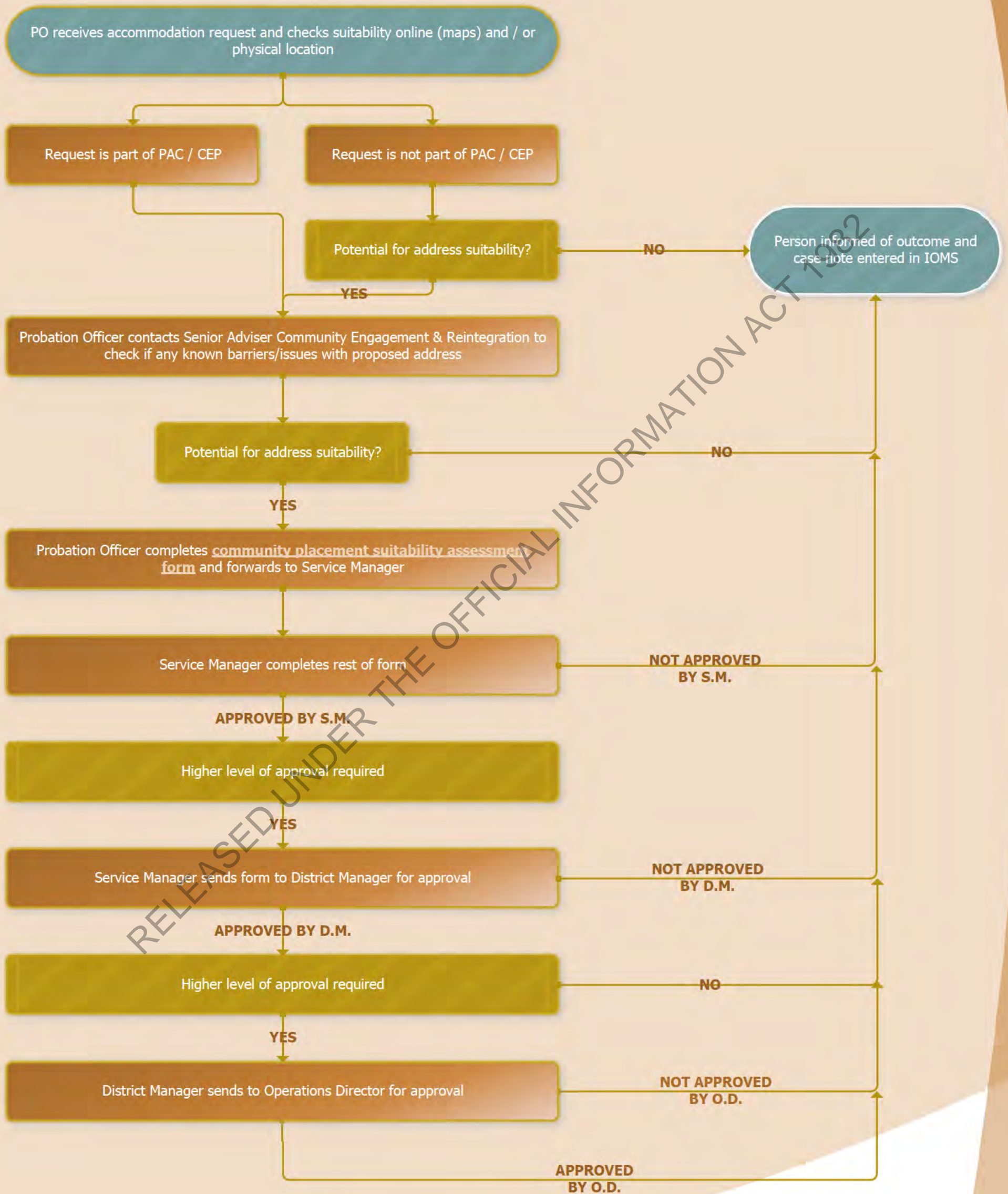
When assessing an address, the SA-CER can inform the Community Placement Suitability Assessment by conducting a thorough environmental scan of the proposed address and its surrounding neighbourhood. Through the SA's engagement with that community, a clear understanding of risks around the placement can be reflected for the approving manager to consider.

The SA-CER will provide satellite imagery, and environmental scan of the address and community to support the placement assessment, as well as a geospatial analysis and community profile (demographic information). Such robustness contributes to the defensibility of any assessment made.

Last Published: 27.02.2021 | By: s9(2)(a)

RELEASED UNDER THE OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT 1982

Process for assessing an address of a Child Sex Offender



Offender Note(s) – Selected

CASTLE, Aaron Paul
PRN/DLicNo: s9(2)(a)

Reference Date: 11-09-2020
Created Date 06-10-2020
Author: s9(2)(a)
Service: CPPS
Title: Offender Management
Subtitle: Case Work

Revision 1, created by s9(2)(a) on 06-10-2020

Liaison with SM and HRRT:

From: s9(2)(a) (LREGRO)
Sent: 11 September 2020 1:48 p.m.
To: s9(2)(a) (WELLSC)
Subject: RE: CPSA - Aaron Laurence

Hey s9(2)(a)

Yep all good will have a look over it this avo and get back to you.

Cheers,

s9(2)(a)
Senior Adviser High Risk ? Lower North
Ara Poutama Aotearoa, Department of Corrections
a: Lower North Regional Office ? Level 4 - 93 The Terrace, Wellington

s9(2)(a)

From: s9(2)(a)
Sent: 11 September 2020 1:39 p.m.
To: s9(2)(a)
Subject: FW: CPSA - Aaron Laurence

Hey s9(2)(a)

I know Aaron isn't ES, but are you able to give a view for his CPSA? I will send a second email with photos

From: s9(2)(a)
Sent: 11 September 2020 1:37 p.m.
To: s9(2)(a)

Subject: RE: CPISA - Aaron Laurence

Hey s9(2)

I think it is worth getting s9(2)'s view on this ??

From: s9(2)(a)

Sent: 11 September 2020 8:55 a.m.

To: s9(2)(a)

Subject: CPISA - Aaron Laurence

Kia ora s9(2)(a)

Please find attached new Community Placement Suitability Assessment, which is hopefully more robust. If anything else is needed please let me know. I attached the environmental scan.

I have sent a separate email with photographs of the main residence and 'sleep out', as well as some photographs of the immediate vicinity of the residence (photos in separate email and in a word document due to file size).

As Mr Laurence is not subject to an ES order, I have not included the view of the High Risk Response Team, however I am happy to liaise with them should this still be wanted on this occasion.

Ng? Mihi,

s9(2)(a)

Senior Practitioner

Department of Corrections, Ara Poutama Aotearoa

a: Wellington Service Centre, 31 - 33 Adelaide Road, Newtown, Wellington | PO Box 7457, Wellington 6242

s9(2)(a)



New Zealand Legislation

Parole Act 2002

- Warning: Some amendments have not yet been incorporated

107C Meaning of eligible offender

- (1) In this Part, **eligible offender** means an offender who—
 - (a) is not subject to an indeterminate sentence but is a person who has been sentenced to imprisonment for a relevant offence (and that sentence has not been quashed or otherwise set aside) and has not ceased, since his or her latest conviction for a relevant offence (that has not been quashed or otherwise set aside), to be subject to any or all of the following:
 - (i) a sentence of imprisonment (whether for a relevant offence or otherwise):
 - (ii) release conditions (whether suspended or not):
 - (iii) an extended supervision order; or
 - (b) is a person who—
 - (i) has arrived in New Zealand within 6 months of ceasing to be subject to any sentence, supervision conditions, or order imposed on the person for a relevant offence by an overseas court; and
 - (ii) has, since that arrival, been in New Zealand for less than 6 months; and
 - (iii) resides or intends to reside in New Zealand; or
 - (c) has been convicted of a relevant offence and in respect of that offence has been determined to be a returning prisoner under the [Returning Offenders \(Management and Information\) Act 2015](#); or
 - (d) is a person to whom [subpart 3](#) of Part 2 of the Returning Offenders (Management and Information) Act 2015 applies.
- (2) To avoid doubt, and to confirm the retrospective application of this provision, despite any enactment or rule of law, an offender may be an eligible offender even if he or she committed a relevant offence, was most recently convicted, or became subject to release conditions or an extended supervision order before this Part and any amendments to it came into force.

Section 107C: replaced, on 12 December 2014, by [section 8](#) of the Parole (Extended Supervision Orders) Amendment Act 2014 (2014 No 69).

Section 107C(1)(b)(iii): amended, on 18 November 2015, by [section 35\(2\)](#) of the Returning Offenders (Management and Information) Act 2015 (2015 No 112).

Section 107C(1)(c): inserted, on 18 November 2015, by [section 35\(3\)](#) of the Returning Offenders (Management and Information) Act 2015 (2015 No 112).

Section 107C(1)(d): inserted, on 18 November 2015, by [section 35\(3\)](#) of the Returning Offenders (Management and Information) Act 2015 (2015 No 112).