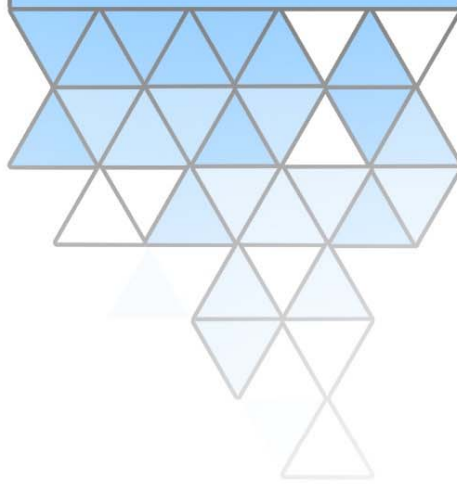


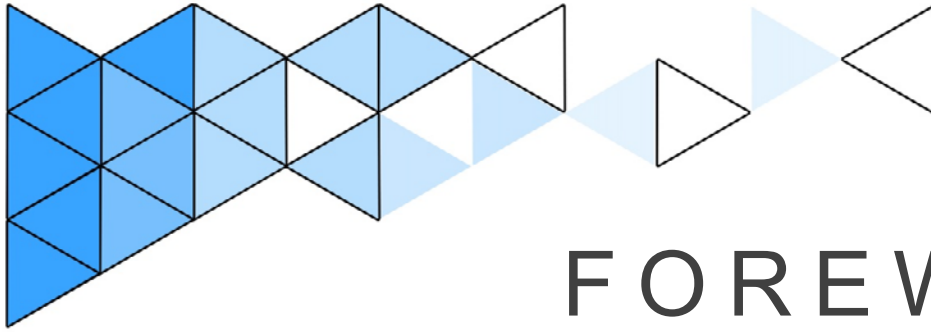


GOVERNMENT OF
WESTERN AUSTRALIA

PRISONERS
REVIEW
BOARD

ANNUAL
REPORT
2018/19





FOREWORD

THE HON. JOHN ROBERT QUIGLEY MLA
ATTORNEY GENERAL

To the Attorney General,
The Honourable John Robert Quigley, MLA

In accordance with section 112 of the *Sentence Administration Act 2003* (WA), I present to you the Annual Report of the Prisoners Review Board for the year ended 30 June 2019.

His Honour Allan Fenbury
Chairperson
Prisoners Review Board

CHAIRPERSON'S OVERVIEW

INTRODUCTION



As Chairperson of the Prisoners Review Board (the Board) in Western Australia I am responsible for chairing some of the Board meetings including most of the meetings which review life and indefinitely sentenced prisoners, writing the life and indefinitely sentenced prisoners' statutory reports for the Attorney General as well as the continuing education, training and professional development of Members of the Board.

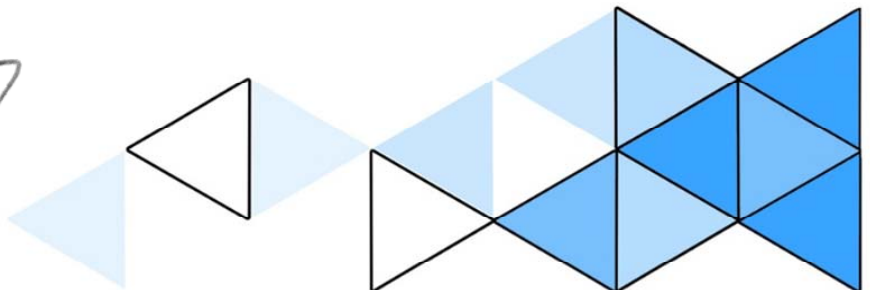
In considering whether to release a prisoner to parole, the Board is obliged to consider numerous factors but the safety of the community is its paramount consideration. The Board must assess the degree of risk of the prisoner committing a serious violent offence after release on parole and the risk release thereby poses to the personal safety of the community or of any individual member of it. When imposing conditions, we must endeavour to minimise that risk to the full extent to which that is possible. This risk can never be completely eliminated. If the Board is unable to formulate suitable conditions to sufficiently reduce the risk to the safety of the community to what the Board regards as an acceptable level, we have no alternative but to deny that prisoner the opportunity of release on parole at that time.

The Board is charged with the responsibility of balancing the safety of the community and the management of the risk posed by the prisoner. Once the Board authorises the release of a prisoner, by making a parole order, we continue to monitor their progress on parole. We take immediate action to suspend or cancel parole should we believe that the risk to the safety of the community is ever increased to a level incompatible with our paramount responsibility to maintain the safety of the community.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Allan Fenbury".

His Honour Allan Fenbury
Chairperson
Prisoners Review Board

30 August 2019

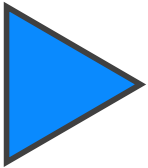




STATISTICAL REQUIREMENTS

PURSUANT TO SECTION 112 OF THE ACT, THE BOARD IS REQUIRED TO PROVIDE THE MINISTER WITH A WRITTEN REPORT ON THE FOLLOWING:

A SNAPSHOT OF FACTS

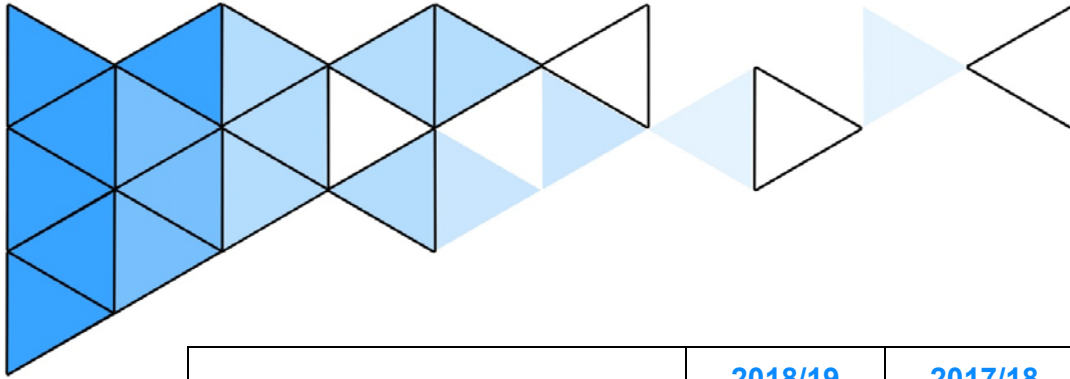


a. THE PERFORMANCE OF THE BOARD'S FUNCTIONS DURING THE PREVIOUS FINANCIAL YEAR;

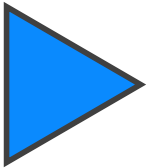
During 2018/19 the Board held 592 meetings, including Registrar and Deputy Chair meetings, and considered 7618 matters. This represents a decrease of 0.7% in the number of meetings held compared with the previous financial year with a 3% decrease in the number of cases.

FINANCIAL YEAR	CASES CONSIDERED	NO. OF BOARD MEETINGS
2018/19	7618	592
2017/18	7846	596
2016/17	6964	568
2015/16	6338	531

"Cases Considered" includes all matters listed before the Board including listings in relation to the administration of parole orders. Individual prisoners can have more than one listing over a 12 month period.



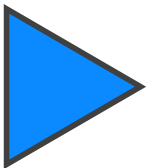
	2018/19	2017/18	CHANGE (%)
PAROLE ORDERS MADE BY THE BOARD AND GOVERNOR	2011	1684	16.3% ↑
PAROLE ORDERS CANCELLED OR SUSPENDED	369	424	14.9% ↓
PAROLE APPLICATIONS DENIED BY THE BOARD AND GOVERNOR	1929	2338	17.5% ↓



- b. THE NUMBER OF PRISONERS WHO BECAME ELIGIBLE TO BE RELEASED UNDER A PAROLE ORDER DURING THE PREVIOUS FINANCIAL YEAR;

	2018/19	2017/18	CHANGE (%)
TOTAL NUMBER	3421	3377	1.3% ↑

A prisoner's eligibility for parole is determined by the Court as part of their sentence.



- c. THE NUMBER OF PRISONERS WHO APPLIED TO BE RELEASED UNDER A RE-ENTRY RELEASE ORDER DURING THE PREVIOUS FINANCIAL YEAR;

	2018/19	2017/18	CHANGE (%)
TOTAL NUMBER	0	0	0%

Prior to 2007, prisoners eligible for parole could also apply for early release under a Re-entry Release Order, pursuant to Part 4 of the Act. Those prisoners sentenced after 2007 may only be released via a Re-Entry Release Order if the sentencing court determined not to make an order than an offender was eligible for parole.

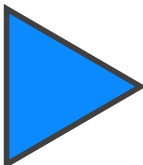
- 
- d. THE NUMBER OF PRISONERS WHO WERE REFUSED AN EARLY RELEASE ORDER BY THE BOARD OR THE GOVERNOR DURING THE PREVIOUS FINANCIAL YEAR;

	2018/19	2017/18	CHANGE (%)
TOTAL	1820	2114	13.9% ↓

- 
- e. THE NUMBER OF PRISONERS RELEASED UNDER AN EARLY RELEASE ORDER BY THE BOARD OR THE GOVERNOR DURING THE PREVIOUS FINANCIAL YEAR;

	2018/19	2017/18	CHANGE (%)
TOTAL	2021	1638	19% ↑

BREAKDOWN OF TOTAL PRISONERS
RELEASED UNDER AN EARLY
RELEASE ORDER:

- 
- ea. THE NUMBER OF PRISONERS WHOSE COOPERATION WAS CONSIDERED BY THE BOARD FOR THE PURPOSES OF SECTION 66B(1)(a) DURING THE PREVIOUS FINANCIAL YEAR;

66b1 = Board not to release or recommend release unless prisoner cooperates or victim's remains located

(1) The Board must not make a release decision, or take release action, in relation to a relevant prisoner in custody for a homicide offence or homicide related offence unless the Board is satisfied that —

(a) the prisoner has cooperated with a member of the Police Force in the identification of the location, or last known location, of the remains of the victim of the homicide offence; or

(b) a member of the Police Force knows the location of the remains of the victim of the homicide offence.

	2018/19	2017/18	CHANGE (%)
TOTAL	1	0	100% ↑

eb. THE NUMBER OF PRISONERS REFERRED TO IN PARAGRAPH (EA) WHO WERE RELEASED UNDER AN EARLY RELEASE ORDER BY THE BOARD OR THE GOVERNOR DURING THE PREVIOUS FINANCIAL YEAR:

	2018/19	2017/18	CHANGE (%)
TOTAL	0	0	0%

f. THE NUMBER OF PRISONERS WHO COMPLETED AN EARLY RELEASE ORDER DURING THE PREVIOUS FINANCIAL YEAR;

	2018/19	2017/18	CHANGE (%)
TOTAL	1072	922	14% ↑

“Completed” means the prisoner’s parole order was neither suspended nor cancelled during the parole period.

SUSPENSION & CANCELLATION OF PAROLE ORDERS IN THE FINANCIAL YEAR 2018/19

g. THE NUMBER OF EARLY RELEASE ORDERS SUSPENDED OR CANCELLED DURING THE PREVIOUS FINANCIAL YEAR AND THE REASONS FOR SUSPENSION OR CANCELLATION;

	2018/19	2017/18	CHANGE (%)
PAROLE¹ ORDERS CANCELLED	299	318	6.4% ↓
PAROLE¹ ORDERS SUSPENDED	70	106	51.4% ↓
TOTAL	369	424	

¹ Decisions to suspend/cancel parole should not be compared to the number of prisoners released on parole for the same reporting period as the decision to suspend/cancel can relate to an offender who was granted parole in a previous reporting period. Figures reflect decisions of the Board and do not include Adult Community Corrections decisions to suspend parole.



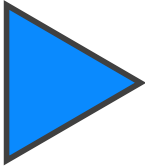
ga. THE NUMBER OF PRISONERS WHO WERE THE SUBJECT OF A REPORT UNDER SECTION 74C OF THE *SENTENCE ADMINISTRATION ACT 2003* (WA):

	2018/19	2017/18	CHANGE (%)
TOTAL	326	368	11.4% ↓



gb. THE NUMBER OF PERSONS RELEASED SUBJECT TO PSSO'S DURING THE PREVIOUS FINANCIAL YEAR.

	2018/19	2017/18	CHANGE (%)
TOTAL	87	64	26.4% ↑



h. THE NUMBER OF PRISONERS FOR WHOM PARTICIPATION IN A RE-SOCIALISATION PROGRAMME WAS APPROVED BY THE BOARD OR THE GOVERNOR DURING THE PREVIOUS FINANCIAL YEAR;

	2018/19	2017/18
TOTAL	11	13

A re-socialisation programme is designed to allow long term prisoners the opportunity to be gradually reintegrated into the community in preparation for release from prison. The purpose of a re-socialisation programme is to equip a prisoner for re-entry into the general community by addressing their education, employment, family and community support networks. The aim is to improve the prisoner's ability to pursue and maintain a pro-social and law abiding lifestyle.



i. THE NUMBER OF PRISONERS WHO COMPLETED RE-SOCIALISATION PROGRAMMES DURING THE PREVIOUS FINANCIAL YEAR;

	2018/19	2017/18
TOTAL	11	9

Re-socialisation programmes can run for varying durations of time, from six months to two years and can encompass multiple stages. As such, not all re-socialisation programmes commenced in a financial period will end in that same financial period.