

Parole Board Queensland is aware that the parole application by Robert Long is of significant interest to the public, particularly victims and their families.

The Board is an independent statutory authority led by a President with equivalent experience and standing as a Supreme Court Justice and Deputy Presidents as District Court Judges. The Board is also comprised of professional board members with legal or health qualifications, public service representatives with experience in community corrections, senior police officers and members of the community. Five members, one from each of those categories, and chaired by the President or a Deputy President comprise the decision-making body.

It would be inappropriate for the Board to make comments in relation to the particulars of an application before it.

The Board's purpose is to make independent, transparent, fair and evidence-based parole decisions which appropriately address risk to the community.

The Board has no role to play in, and no power to vary, sentencing decisions including setting parole eligibility dates. Those are matters exclusively for the Courts.

The functions and powers of the Board are set out in the *Corrective Service Act 2006* (Qld). The way the Board makes decisions, including the matters the Board takes into account, are published in Ministerial Guidelines and Parole Board Queensland Decision-Making Guidelines at <https://corrections.qld.gov.au/parole-board-queensland/>

All relevant material will be considered by Parole Board Queensland in making an evidence-based decision in relation to this application (as with all applications), in accordance with the law and Ministerial Guidelines with community safety its highest priority.

Relevant material includes submissions made by victims and/or their families.