

PAROLE BOARD FOR SCOTLAND – LEGAL MEMBER ROLE PROFILE

Parole Board Members are generally not directly involved in management or corporate governance.

As a Legal Member of the Parole Board your duties will be judicial in nature, and will include:

- communicating effectively with victims, prisoners, relevant professionals, and witnesses who may appear at Tribunals or Oral Hearings;
- working independently and collaboratively with other members of the Tribunal/casework hearings, participating effectively and impartially in the decision making process;
- deciding on the suitability for release on licence of long-term prisoners (those sentenced to four years or more) to serve a portion of their sentence on licence in the community;
- considering whether to direct the release on licence of life sentence prisoners and prisoners subject to Orders for Lifelong Restriction once they have served the punishment part of their sentence;
- obtaining the views of victims of crime and their family members where a life sentence has been imposed;
- consideration of the need to recall to custody offenders who have breached their licence conditions and the case for directing re-release;
- chairing Tribunals/Oral Hearings and making decisions on allowing victims to observe hearings; and
- producing robust minutes giving sound decisions for hearings and the reasons for these decisions, reflecting accurately the issues under consideration;
- occasional travel within Scotland, when required, for face to face Tribunals or casework oral hearings.

Members may also be involved in quality assessments, staff training, peer review and also training for agencies that provide information and evidence for the Parole Board.

There may also be occasion when members may be involved, at the invitation of the Chairperson, in work related to practice and policy development both internally and externally with agencies involved in parole.

General and Legal members may serve on the Parole Board's Management Group.