

# NSW State Parole Authority

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Justice Precinct Offices  
160 Marsden Street  
Parramatta NSW 2150

**Thursday 12 March, 2020**

## **STATE PAROLE AUTHORITY REFUSES ROBERT HUGHES PAROLE**

The State Parole Authority (SPA) today refused parole to Robert Hughes.

The SPA panel today considered the matter in a closed meeting, determining he “presents as an unacceptable risk to community safety.”

The SPA received information that Hughes was a dual Australian-British citizen and his application to be transferred to a prison in the United Kingdom, under the International Transfer of Prisoners (ITP) scheme, had been approved by Australian and British authorities.

Under this arrangement, he would remain in prison in the UK until granted parole and while on parole would be supervised until his sentence expires on 6 January, 2025.

However, three months ago Hughes suddenly withdrew his ITP application and renounced his Australian citizenship and his Visa was cancelled.

The SPA was advised Hughes is no longer an Australian citizen and therefore, if released to parole, would be deported immediately to the UK where he would not be supervised, electronically monitored or required to comply with any conditions of his parole.

NSW and the UK do not have reciprocal arrangements for parolees, only prisoners.

Denying parole, the SPA decided without “structured post release plans” and parole supervision Hughes presents as an “unacceptable risk to community safety”.

The SPA also refused to grant Hughes an automatic review of the decision.

He must now submit an application and satisfy the SPA that a public review hearing is warranted otherwise the decision to refuse parole will stand and he will not be reconsidered until 2021.

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