

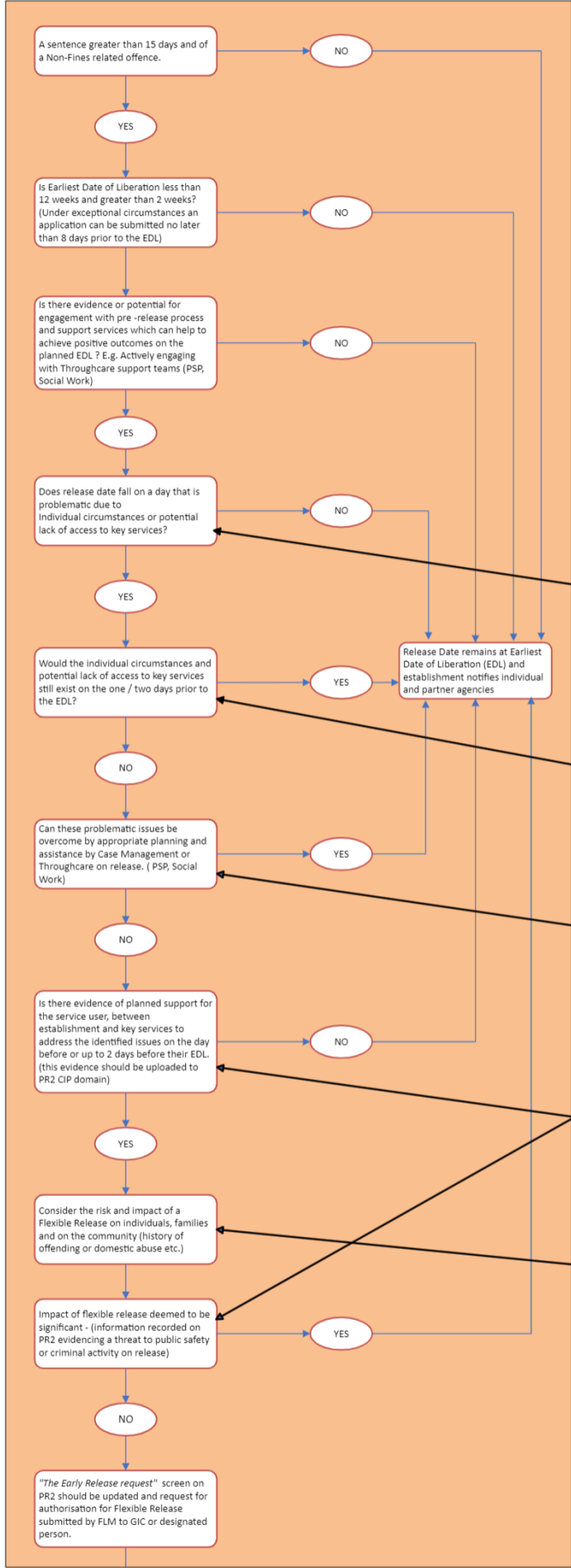
PRISONERS (CONTROL OF RELEASE) (SCOTLAND) ACT 2015
Flexible Release Timed to Benefit Re-integration

Applications will be received via the Flexible Release Request Form submitted through the SPS Flexible Release Group. The form can be submitted via Prison and Community processes.
Request for flexible release at an establishment will be coordinated by the designated person(s) and be considered through local Case Management process i.e. Case Management Board/Pre-Release Case Conference /ICM Case Conference which must be chaired by relevant FLM

Acknowledge within 2 working days of receipt and contact partner within 3 days of receipt

Case management, person centred process should consider each request on a case by case basis against the following criteria following discussion with partners.

Establishments should take a proactive approach for those with EDLs around public holidays (such as Christmas, New Year and Easter) and liaise with partners to identify any difficulties and discuss possible solutions.



Evidence that the day of liberation is problematic - i.e. lack of availability of housing or addictions support, numerous complex needs that can't be met on day of release or leave the individual over the weekend highlighting a risk to their reintegration, would mean the applicant would progress onto the next stage.
Insufficient evidence would be enough to reject at this stage.

Evidence that flexible release date presents the same problematic issues as on earliest day of liberation - i.e. still no availability of housing or addiction support, numerous complex needs that can't be addressed would be enough to reject the applicant.
Information from service provider through a support plan for the day or 2 days before liberation would be enough to accept at this stage.

Evidence of an Action plan overcoming the problematic issues would mean the applicant is rejected at this stage.
Evidence stating that the problematic issues can't be overcome would enable the applicant to progress onto the next stage.

Evidence uploaded from a service provider detailing the support that can be provided on the days prior to liberation that supports the service users reintegration, would mean the applicant would progress to the next stage. Examples could include a letter from addictions support worker detailing 2 / 3 days support for vulnerable service user prior to the weekend break, Housing Services offering supported accommodation earlier than EDL, a letter from Social Work reference ferry times and access to services due to distance to travel etc.
Decision makers should determine if there is enough evidence to make a decision. If gaps exist, establishments should seek further clarification from partners
No evidence from a service provider would mean the applicant is rejected at this stage.

Any Evidence or Intelligence that highlights significant risk or could result in an offence being committed may result in the application being rejected.

