



JUDICIARY OF
ENGLAND AND WALES

His Honour Judge Martyn Levett

Elliott Mallett

Sentencing Remarks for
Attempted Murder and Aggravated Burglary

Not corrected

8th December 2025

Contents

1. Sentencing Exercise	3
2. Warning to the Public	4
3. Background and Motive	4
4. Sharon Farthing VPS	5
5. Finding of fact.....	7
6. Sentencing Guidelines	8
7. Aggravating and Mitigating factors	9
8. Step 5 Dangerousness	9
9. Actual Sentence	11
10. Ancillary Orders	12
11. Transcript.....	12
12. Commendation	12

1. Sentencing Exercise

1.1 Elliott Mallett, you were born on 11/1/2001 and you are now 24 years old and I have to sentence you after the jury convicted you on 23/9/25 of Aggravated Burglary on 7/12/24 when you entered Sharon Farthing's home in Admiral Way, Ellenbrook Ipswich with an 8 inch blade carving knife and stole a sports bag after being disturbed by the householder, Sharon Farthing, was at home at the time. Before leaving with the bag, you confronted her, half-way up the staircase where you pulled the carving knife from your coat and stabbed her 8 times to her neck and upper body, intending to kill her. The jury also convicted you of attempting to murder Sharon Farthing in count 1. Other charges of possession of a knuckleduster and cannabis were discontinued and verdicts of not guilty were entered.

1.2 This case stands out not only for its shocking brutality but also for what it reveals about you. You have been diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder and at the time you had no previous convictions. However, an extremely disturbing picture emerged when the police examined your phone. The content of images and videos revealed a strong fascination with weaponry, right-wing ideology, and violence.

1.3 DC Gaffer's statement at I.67 and the exhibited photographs of the phone download at Q.192 onwards shows numerous selfies posing with weapons and imitation firearms, often against a backdrop of Donald Trump posters. In addition, videos showed you breaking into redundant buildings causing damage and deliberately capturing and killing animals by beheading them, striking them with weapons, and burning them with flames. This sort of unimaginative cruel behaviour is strongly associated with desensitisation to violence and is a rehearsal for personal harm to others.

1.4 The author of the PSR at page 4, 5 and 6 explains and justifies her conclusions based on research studies on the Macdonald Triad and subsequent studies set out in the source information, which has confirmed that animal cruelty and fire setting are associated with increased risk of personal violence, particularly when combined with antisocial traits and burglary offences. Two images found on your phone were particularly concerning: an older couple looking out of a window in apparent fear. This suggests an interest in capturing the emotional impact of fear, which aligns with theories of fantasy-driven offending. Crimino-logical research indicates that violent fantasies often precede and shape the commission of serious offences, as it serves as rehearsal for real-world violence. In this case, the progression from trespassing in abandoned buildings to targeting dwelling houses demonstrates a clear escalation pattern, consistent with fantasy enactment and rehearsal. I also refer to the comments made to Bobby Mayhew about you knowing about a house where pensioners lived which would make a good burglary.

1.5 Social services records apparently confirm concerns about you and the risk of violent escalation because a month before the offences on 7th December, a person close to you contacted them expressing concerns about your behaviour. This warning sign, apparently evident to those close to you, taken together with the circumstantial evidence, suggest that the offences committed on 7/12/24 were not a spur of the moment act nor isolated but was the culmination of a progressive pattern of behaviour. Claire Baldwin who prepared the PSR wrote that this previous background conduct reflects a trajectory from property-based offending and cruelty towards animals to targeted personal violence, consistent with criminal models of escalation for future violent behaviour. I agree and in my judgment this escalating violent criminal behaviour, and your own vulnerabilities dealing with everyday routine can expose members of the public to grave danger.

2. Warning to the Public

2.1 I listened to the evidence over three weeks during the trial and it seems to me to be appropriate to warn the public that as the nights and darkness close in at this time of year, there can be catastrophic consequences from householders leaving a front door unlocked or even on the latch.

2.2 The second warning is about the continuing news about carrying knives in public, often concealed in clothing or under coats. The prevalence of routinely carrying knives in public has struck me during the course of many sentencing hearings that the message is still not being heard. I have attempted to bring home to the public and to young people in a stark way, by imposing lengthy sentences to represent how the courts can deter and help reduce, so far as possible and eradicate the use of knives in violent attacks.

2.3 It follows that at the forefront of my mind, I focus on the reduction of crime, necessarily by deterrence, and the protection of the public. This is at the cornerstone of the purposes of sentencing in section 57 Sentencing Act 2020. I have often remarked that violence using knives was another grim illustration of how knife crime is blighting the towns and cities not only across the UK, but now in many cases I deal with in Ipswich. It makes us realise that this is much closer to home than we might like to think. Suffolk and its Towns are not immune from these shocking cases.

3. Background and Motive

3.1 On 7 December 2024 Sharon Farthing was a lone female in her own home preparing to go out for a Christmas meal with her friends. Her six-year-old son was safely with her parents. She believed she was secure, but she had left her front door unlocked. She was upstairs in the rear bedroom and in her ABE recorded evidence at K8 -12 she explained using the Sequence of event bundle pages 4 – 6 that the bathroom, landing and upstairs back bedroom lights were on which would have illuminated the hallway to the front door downstairs. Her Alexa voice activated device was playing music, and she was using her hair dryer. If it was not apparent from the outside that the house

was occupied, then by the time you had gone into the hallway and living room I find that you must have been aware someone was upstairs.

3.2. While upstairs, Sharon Farthing sensed a breeze in the air and assumed her friends had arrived, but something did not feel right so she started to go down the stairs when saw a shadow move in the living room. She called out for the person to leave. Instead, she was confronted by you as you went up the stairs to confront her half-way. You had your face partially obscured or disguised and you were wearing black clothing including face covering

3.3 What followed was an unprovoked, shocking and brutal targeted attack on a woman in her own home. You drew the 8-inch bladed knife from the left side of your coat and began stabbing her repeatedly, aiming for her neck - a clear indication of intent to kill. Sharon Farthing later described believing she would die. Her brave resistance by kicking you off her, enabling her to escape to a neighbour's house. You stumbled downstairs, colliding with furniture, and ran off toward Ellenbrook Park stealing the gym bag and contents belonging to her which was never recovered.

3.4 Mrs Farthing received eight stab wounds, primarily to the face and neck, and bruising around her eye. These injuries, aimed at vital areas, underscore the lethal nature of the assault. As part of the background evidence, I was told that her career was inspiring to many. She joined the Navy in 1995 and became a personal trainer specialising in personal safety and weapon training. She joined Suffolk Constabulary as a Police Constable in 2005 and was deployed to the front-line response team. She is a health coach and a regularly hobby of hers is boxing. I am quite convinced that had she not been so physically fit and able to fight back, the outcome would almost certainly have been fatal. It was sheer luck that her six-year-old son was not present; his exposure to such violence would have compounded the harm immeasurably.

4. Sharon Farthing VPS

4.1 The physical injuries, though described as superficial, do not fully convey the psychological devastation suffered as a result of the attack. In her personal statement, Sharon described the attack as "life-altering," with emotional scars running deeper than the physical ones. She experiences nightly panic, hypervigilance, and profound anxiety. Her sense of safety has been shattered, affecting her ability to work and maintain relationships. Recovery will be long-term and complex. I am quite sure this the level of psychological harm is sufficiently serious for it to fit in Category 2 of the guidelines.

4.2 There are two victim impact statements. One shortly after the event dated 6/1/25 with an addendum dated 27/10/25 and a further statement uploaded in the wrong section at I.116 dated 2/7/25. Sharon Farthing read those statements from the witness box with the degree of fortitude rarely

demonstrated after such a devastating attack. No one should confuse outward strength with the turmoil inside. What Sharon Farthing said was a stark reminder to everyone, the Judge, the public, the media and the local communities, that the harm resulting from violent crimes on another human being does not stop at the injuries, but it can have a long-lasting psychological effect on those who suffer the pain and it can affect other family members such as children and their extended families.

4.3 For Sharon Farthing the intrusion in her own home and subsequent attack with a knife has had an overwhelming and devastating impact on her life, both physically and emotionally. Knowing that someone invaded her home, a place meant to be safe and secure, has left her feeling vulnerable and constantly on edge. Every creak or unfamiliar sound fills her with fear, and she struggles to feel safe even in broad daylight. The attack itself was not only terrifying but for her, life-altering. She said

“the physical injuries, though they may heal, are a constant reminder of how close I came to losing my life. The emotional scars run even deeper. I wake up at night reliving those moments, gripped by panic and the thought of what could have happened. Being attacked in my own home was not just an act of violence—it was a selfish and cowardly action. It could have had devastating consequences, not just for me but for my 6 year old son, who thankfully wasn’t home that night. He could have been left without his mother. The thought of how this could have affected him makes it all the more unforgivable and constantly haunts me. Home is meant to be a safe space, and what happened violated that deeply. This experience has left me feeling robbed of peace, trust, and a sense of normality. I’ve had to make changes to my home and my daily routines, constantly trying to protect myself and my son from a world that now feels dangerous and unpredictable. The trauma has impacted every aspect of my life, from my ability to work to my relationships with others. I find myself withdrawing from loved ones, struggling with anxiety, and battling feelings of helplessness. This attack didn’t just harm me in the moment—it has fundamentally changed the way I live my life. No one should have to endure the fear and pain I’ve experienced. I hope this statement conveys the profound and lasting effects this crime has had on me and my family.”

A further personal statement dated 2/7/25 she said

The day I was attacked he confronted me on the stairs, he didn’t hesitate, he hit and punched me then pulled a large knife from inside his coat and stabbing me repeatedly. His violence was cold, calculated, and without any sign of fear or remorse. His deliberate and definite act of stabbing me, again and again is something I will never forget and repeatedly think about. This was not a moment of panic or confusion. It was purposeful, controlled, and deeply disturbing.

Since then, my life has been consumed by trauma. I suffer with flashbacks. I feel constantly on edge. I have withdrawn from people I love because it’s hard to connect while carrying so much fear and emotional pain. I’ve had to pay for counselling to try and cope. I feel more vulnerable than I ever have.

I stayed in that home for a long time after the attack, not because I wanted to, but because I couldn’t afford to move and because I didn’t want to burden my son with the full horror of what had happened. But it meant living in the very place where I was nearly killed, trying to pretend things were normal when nothing felt right again. Eventually, I had to leave. I moved to Portsmouth with my partner, in the hope of starting over.

None of this was my fault, and yet I'm the one living with the trauma, the loss, and the rebuilding. I've done everything I can to survive.. I want back what I had, but I know that parts of it have been taken from me forever. This wasn't just an attack on my body. It was an attack on my life, my identity, my peace, and my future.

5. Finding of fact

5.1 I was the trial judge, and I listened to the evidence and I have heard the oral submissions supplementing the written sentencing notes drafted by the advocates. I am now in a position to explain the basis of my sentence after making findings of fact on some contentious issues. These are my conclusions.

5.2 First, despite the lapse of leaving the front door open, you Elliott Mallett entered as a trespasser, not as a petty sneak thief, not as some opportunistic on the spur of the moment decision but as a planned, premeditated burglary armed with a knife. In my judgement the knife was carried ready to meet any confrontation or resistance from being disturbed by an occupant during the course of the burglary or you had it for use intentionally to injure any occupant for another reason.

5.3 Second, I am quite sure that before you entered the house in Admirals Way, you hid your own heavy bag which was on your shoulders when you left your home in Hawthorne Drive at 15.45. This bag can be seen in the cctv doorbell footage at page 8 of the sequence of events. I conclude that that once you entered 43 Admiral Road an hour later at 16.50, you were going to gather up valuable items and put them in a bag.

5.4 Third, I am sure the motive for the burglary was financial as clearly foreshadowed by Bobby Mayhew who said in evidence that on that Saturday morning of the burglary he was with you and your girlfriend Sharon Patrick and a row broke out between you and her over Christmas presents because she wanted a PlayStation 5 but you couldn't afford it, causing further argument.

5.5 Fourth, I am sure that the house was targeted for such a burglary because you told Bobby Mayhew there was a place down Ellenbrook where two old pensioners lived, when you were speaking about breaking into a house and stealing things.

5.6 Fifth, at the time of committing the burglary you had the kitchen knife. It is perfectly reasonable on all the evidence to reach a sure conclusion that the attack on the householder was an attempted murder for gain as worded in the very high culpability category A in the Sentencing Council guidelines. To conclude otherwise would lead to an inconsistency. You attacked her so you could get away with her property. Despite this culpability factor not being defined further in the guideline, there is a correlation with those factors in the Sentencing Act, schedule 21 para 3(2)(c) for the full offence of murder. In that paragraph, the circumstances are more clearly stated as being a killing done

for gain is if it was done in the course or furtherance of burglary. To conclude otherwise would create an inconsistency between the two offences and the approach to sentencing. I cannot overlook that your girlfriend was demanding and wanted a PlayStation 5 and in my judgment the motive for the burglary was to steal expensive items had you not been disturbed.

5.7 Sixth, my approach to the sentence on count 1 is that if the case falls in category 2A of the Guideline, the starting point is 30 years in a range from 25 years. If I conclude that the attempted murder was done in the course or furtherance of burglary, then the verdict of guilty and sentence for aggravated burglary in count 3 would be encompassed in the starting point for this attempted murder.

5.8 Seventh, if the category of offence was, as the defence submitted, more in category B because the culpability factor clearly states that where a defendant took a knife or other weapon to the scene intending to commit any offence or have it available to use as a weapon and used that knife in committing the offence, the starting point is 25 years but increases to a higher range up to 30 years depending on the circumstances and seriousness. It is agreed that if I concluded that the offence was more within category 2B, then I would be entitled to treat the attempted murder as the lead offence, aggravated by the burglary and therefore increase the starting point of 25 years up to 30 years, keeping totality in mind at all times.

5.9 Eighth, the sentence for aggravated burglary in count 3 is in my view clearly one where there was cogent evidence of a significant degree of planning for category A culpability. The offence falls into harm category 1 on the basis that serious violence was used and it caused a substantial psychological and emotional harm to Sharon Farthing who was in the house at the time. The starting point for an A1 offence is one of 10 years imprisonment with a range of 9-13 years.

6. Sentencing Guidelines

6.1 Four Sentencing Guidelines are relevant: attempted murder, aggravated burglary, totality and sentencing offenders with mental disorders, developmental disorders, or neurological impairments. Reference should first be made to the Attempted Murder guideline, which applies to all cases sentenced on or after 1 July 2021. I have already explained my approach

6.2 This was in my judgement an attempted murder committed during the course of stealing and in order to steal so was committed for financial gain so falls in category 2A and an aggravated burglary in category 1A.

6.3 I am treating the attempt murder as the lead offence but I have not increased the starting sentence of 30 yrs beyond that because the aggravated burglary is encompassed in the categorisation. If it was a category 2B offence, then the starting point of 25 yrs would be increased to 30 year because I

would treat the aggravated burglary as an aggravating factor to the attempted murder. It is the same outcome.

7. Aggravating and Mitigating factors

7.1 The identified aggravating factors are that after the event Mr Mallett you quickly invented an alternative story that the attacker also attacked you and took your phone so as to explain the GPS location of it inside the house at the time of the attack. This was done cover up your involvement and you also removed your outer clothing to deflect attention from yourself.

7.2 The mitigating factors are confined to lack of previous convictions and the Defendant's Autism diagnosis but it is clear that neither condition is linked to you committing the offences. To the extent that Dr Farhy suggests that your offending may be linked to deficits in social understanding, difficulties processing complex social information, and impaired ability to form appropriate relationships, I reject that as an excuse or reduction in your culpability.

7.3 I accept that Autism is a life long condition and together with your age of 24 I am asked to consider your lack of maturity.

7.3 In my judgement these aggravating and mitigating factors balance each other out and I do not make any adjustment from the 30 yr sentence.

8. Step 5 Dangerousness

8.1 The two offences I have to consider are rightly described as a serious specified offences and are included in those offences qualifying for a life sentence by Schedule 19. However, I do not regard this as a case which would justify a life sentence but I am still required to consider the issue of dangerousness.

8.2 Section 208 explains that an extended sentence of imprisonment is available in respect of an offence where the court is of the opinion that there is a significant risk to members of the public of serious harm occasioned by the commission by the offender of further specified offences and the court is not required to impose a sentence of imprisonment for life. Section 306 SA 2020 defines "serious harm" as meaning death or serious personal injury, whether physical or psychological. I cannot think of any better example of that than the facts of this case. I have the clear and unequivocal opinion that you present such a risk, as was discussed in Court because this was a planned aggravated burglary with an extreme level of violence and an intention to kill Mrs Farthing. It is unlikely at this time any risk can be safely managed in the community.

8.3 In making that assessment, by section 308 Sentencing Act 2020 I must take into account all the information that is available about the nature and circumstances of the offence, any pattern of behaviour shown by you and any

information about you. I have read the PSR from Claire Baldwin dated 28/11/25, the psychological report from Dr Farhy dated 25/11/25, the psychiatric report from Dr Baird dated 21/3/25 and a second report post-conviction dated 28/10/25 and the intermediary report dated 6/5/25. There was a lot of information. I also read the letters sent to me at T7 and 8.

8.4 You are described in the PSR as being a young British male whose admiration for extremist figures and engagement with far-right online communities appears to reinforce rigid thinking and a worldview that prizes dominance and intolerance. This, combined with his fascination with weapons and violent imagery, may contribute to a mindset that normalises aggression and control.

8.5 This led to the assessment that you have the capacity for extreme, avoidable violence. It is concerning that this risk of escalation occurred largely in secrecy and that you only came to the attention of authorities briefly before committing this offence. In the letters to me you do not mention any remorse or acceptance for these offences and you continue to deny them, a factors indicating that you show no intention to change.

8.6 Dr Baird noted that you, Mr Mallett has grandiose claims of being "respected" and "gang affiliated," suggests a tendency toward impression management and status-seeking. Your preoccupation with hierarchy both in the community and in custody points to underlying arrogance and grandiosity, which may influence his interactions and decision-making. At para 61 of Dr Baird's first report, he explains that people with ASD often find unexpected situations difficult to cope with. In a situation where they may feel intimidated, they may not know how to respond and will therefore become increasingly anxious. This may lead them to become unintentionally involved in activity which alarms others or which breaks the law. Further, they are often unaware of the consequence of their actions or the effect their behaviour might have on other people because they do not instinctively link cause and effect. Some can display extreme behaviour in certain circumstances, often resulting from their inherent high anxiety levels.

8.7 In the second report at para 23, he clarifies what is meant by autistic fantasy by reference to a defensive strategy of escape from reality through retreat to the magical imaginations in an autistic person's mind. While daydreaming is common, autistic fantasy replaces social interactions to a significant extent, leading to challenges

8.8 Mallett's background reveals a troubling pattern. He admitted to breaking into empty houses with friends, describing himself as "stuck in a routine." He acknowledged antisocial behaviour, neglect of self-care, and involvement in fire setting and animal cruelty—behaviours widely recognised as precursors to serious violence. Digital evidence showed a fascination with weaponry, violent content, and right-wing ideology.

8.9 Videos on his phone depicted animal torture and fire setting, which he initially tried to downplay. Psychological assessments, including Dr Baird's report, described Mallett as a fantasist, invested in a constructed persona of gang affiliation and dominance. His choice of associates—often younger or vulnerable individuals—suggests a need for control and admiration.

8.10 This dynamic reinforced his self-image as powerful, feeding a cycle of escalating criminality. AUTISM was identified as a factor in his life, contributing to impulsivity and poor decision-making. However, it does not excuse the offence. Many individuals with AUTISM lead law-abiding lives. The condition may have amplified his susceptibility to thrill-seeking and peer influence, but the deliberate preparation—arming himself with a knife—shows intent beyond mere impulsivity.

8.11 While financial gain was an incidental motive—perhaps linked to buying presents—the evidence suggests a deeper driver: fantasy enactment. Criminological research indicates that violent fantasies often precede serious offences, serving as mental rehearsal. Mallett's progression from trespassing in abandoned buildings to targeting occupied homes reflects this pattern. His interest in fear, evidenced by disturbing images on his phone, aligns with theories of fantasy-driven offending. The attack was not a spontaneous grab for cash; it was the culmination of rehearsed violence.

8.12 I have concluded that you are a dangerous offender because you have absolutely no insight into your own behaviour, nor the reasons for it and you have convinced yourself that things didn't happen because you are too cowardly to face up and admit that you attacked Sharon Farthing and attempted to kill her. I have considered whether a standard determinate sentence is appropriate. However, despite the length of the sentence I am going to impose, even that sentence would not fully address the risk you currently represent, and I do consider it necessary to impose an extended sentence in order to protect the public in the future. Let me explain why.

8.13 First you have shown no remorse and second you show no empathy. Third, I disagree with Mr Farr for the defence about treating the photographic material such as fire-setting, pigeon photos, far right material, picture of elderly people at window with scepticism and caution, before concluding that it supports the assessment of dangerousness. I am sure you are a dangerous offender, with risks which are compounded by your lack of empathy, and other dynamic factors such as violent fantasies, and escalation pattern of offending.

9. Actual Sentence

9.1 The extended sentence for Attempted murder is made up of two parts: a custodial period, which will be no longer than the thirty-year period I mentioned, and an extended licence period of five years, making an extended sentence of 35 years' duration in total.

9.2 You will serve two-thirds of the custodial period of 30 years in prison before the Parole Board will consider whether it is safe to release you, and if so on what terms. Once released, you will serve on licence any part of the custodial period which remains, and you will then be subject to an extended licence for a further period of five years.

9.3 When you are released and subject to licence, if you commit another offence or fail to comply with the terms of your release, you are liable to be recalled to custody and may serve the entire sentence in custody. The time spent on remand in custody will automatically count towards the custodial term of your sentence.

10. Ancillary Orders

10.1 Surcharge

10.2 Forfeiture and destruction knife ABS/2

11. Transcript

11.1 I direct that a copy of these sentencing remarks are to be provided by the defendants solicitors so they can be given to Dr Farhy as suggested and placed on the defendants prison and NHS file.

11.2 The provisions in CPD VII chapter G.3 enables a written copy of these sentencing remarks to be made available to Sharon Farthing now that sentence has been passed. The copy should be provided as soon as is reasonably practicable after the sentencing hearing, and is available from the Judicial Press office

12. Commendation

12.1 Investigating a case such as this provides many challenges due to the constellation of different pieces of evidence. I appreciate that much of the work involves putting together a coherent case which is then presented to the jury. Sometimes that is not easy.

12.2 First, marshalling many pages of individual documents for the purpose of disclosure requires a commitment which requires focused attention and hard work from persons who work late at night and probably very early in the morning. I probably only see part of what goes on behind the scenes in the preparation of such cases.

12.3 Second, the role of those persons who play a part to ensure that care, support and attention is provided to the injured party and their family should not be understated.

12.4 Fourth, none of this is possible without teamwork and backup and it's often forgotten that these cases cannot function on their own, and the welfare

of everyone has to be well looked before, during and after the course of each trial. I would like to take the opportunity to thank all those concerned in the case and if I may single out two names amongst many it is the two key officers in this case - DC Alice Gaffer and DS Alice Prior. They should be commended for their hard work. A commendation is truly deserved. I would like my remarks conveyed back to the Chief Constable.

8/12/25

His Honour Judge Martyn Levett DL.

Resident Judge and Honorary Recorder of Ipswich