



IN THE CROWN COURT AT ISLEWORTH

CASE No: URN01XB1270025

THE KING

v.

Jack SHEPHERD

SENTENCE – 14th September 2026

1. Introduction

1.1 Jack Shepherd you are now aged 39.

1.2 On 28th July 2026 you pleaded guilty to counts 2, 3 and 4, on this indictment. That was acceptable to the prosecution after consultation with your victim, and on those I will now sentence you. I will refer to your victim as AB.

1.3 You pleaded not guilty to Counts 1 and 5. Those have been directed to lie upon the file not to be proceeded with without the leave of this court of the Court of Appeal.

1.4 This sentence is against this background. On 9th December 2015 you committed the manslaughter of a former girlfriend when a poorly maintained speedboat crashed into an underwater obstruction. You allowed that to happen when drunk. You fled the jurisdiction. You were convicted in your absence and sentenced to six years imprisonment in July 2018. You were subsequently extradited from the country of Georgia and began serving that sentence in April 2019.

1.5 In May 2019 you pleaded guilty to a separate offence contrary to s.18 of the Offences Against the Person Act 1861 committed whilst you had been on police bail for the manslaughter, and before you fled. You had hit a bar worker with a bottle when he refused to serve you. For that you received a sentence of 4 years imprisonment consecutive to that for the Manslaughter, so making a total term of 10 years.

1.6 The circumstances of the manslaughter led to widespread publicity about your crimes.

1.7 There was an automatic release on licence on 23rd January 2024. It follows that the matters for which I have to sentence you were committed whilst on licence.

1.8 In consequence of your arrest you have been recalled to prison to continue to serve the manslaughter and s.18 sentences. This means that you will remain in custody

on those sentences until 23rd January 2029 unless a decision is made to re-release you on licence earlier.

1.9 Two things follow from that. First as a matter of practicality I can only deal with you today by way of immediate imprisonment. Second because you were released on licence and are subject to recall Parliament has laid down that any sentence I pass today must commence today, and cannot, as a matter of law, be made consecutive to the sentences for the manslaughter and s.18 matters.

2. Preliminary matters

2.1 I have been asked to consider a Restraining Order. However, although I am sensitive to the wishes of AB, given the background and the licence conditions available as and when you are released and my other conclusions I do not consider that the criteria for granting such an order are met.

2.2 I can make no orders for compensation in this case. The victim surcharge automatically applies and I direct payment in 28 days and make a collection order.

3. The new offending

3.1 Having been released on licence in January 2024 you developed a friendship with AB and that developed into a romantic relationship by about August that year. You had told her your own version of your past, one which she initially accepted..

3.2 The terms of your licence required you to inform probation of any new relationship which you did and the police therefore informed AB of your history, which had, in fact, been well publicised.

3.3 AB reported that initially the relationship went well but within a few short months you became jealous and violent, both to AB in person and to property as a means of intimidating her.

3.4 Whatever the difficulties in your relationship the three counts are snapshots of inexcusable violence. Two of the offences were clearly committed when you were drunk, just as you had been when you committed manslaughter in December 2015 or when you hit that bar worker with a bottle back in March 2018. AB assessment was that when you get drunk you want to hit someone to show off your power. There is likewise a pattern of you trying to apologise afterwards and blaming drink.

3.5 The circumstances of each conviction are these.

3.6 Count 2 is of inflicting actual bodily harm in February 2025. There was an argument at home, apparently sparked by AB threatening to speak to your probation officer. You then pinned AB down on the sofa where she was sitting and punched her several times causing her bruising to her arm and the top of her leg. Part of that is shown in RPM1.

3.7 Count 3 is a further offence of inflicting actual bodily harm, this time in June 2025. You and AB had been to the pub where you became drunk, although AB says not very drunk. Returning home you started to barbeque and burned a pizza. When AB, who was sitting down, pointed it out, you responded by poking or stabbing her with the

barbeque tongs causing a bleeding injury to her left breast with bruising and subsequent scarring. I have seen photographs of the tongs H4 and the injury H7. You sought to apologise afterwards blaming your own drunkenness.

3.8 Count 4 is a count of criminal damage committed on 19th June 2025. Again you were drunk and argued with AB. But when she said she was going out and went to her car and to put the keys in the ignition you reached in grabbing and breaking the keys in order to stop her leaving, and depriving her of the means of escape, so she had to retreat to her room to get away from you.

3.9 AB reported matters to the police on 4th August 2025. When you were interviewed the following day you gave a prepared statement denying the offences and seeking to blame AB and making accusations against her.

3.10 AB's victim personal statement describes the pain and injuries inflicted, with permanent scarring, and also explains the effects of stress and anxiety on her, her loss of self-confidence, friendships, and her feeling of safety. These have been aggravated because of your notoriety. I have been careful to focus on the effect of the specific counts on which you must be sentenced but it is clear that there has been a lasting and serious effect upon her.

4. Guidelines

4.1 The most serious offence is the ABH Count 3 where there is medium culpability because of the use of a weapon with Category 2 harm giving a starting point of 36 weeks and a range up to 18 months.

4.2 Count 2 involved using your fists but not a separate weapon. I assess it as Category C culpability and category 2 harm giving a starting point of a high level community order but a range up to 36 weeks and undoubtedly a need for uplift within the range.

4.3 Count 4, the criminal damage, falls into the category of lesser culpability but I am satisfied of serious distress. Stood alone that would have a starting point of a fine with a range up to a community order. Clearly it does not stand alone.

4.4 The offence specific guidelines are to be considered with the aid of the overarching Domestic Abuse guidelines. These make clear that:

- a. The domestic context of the offending behaviour makes the offending more serious because it represents a violation of the trust and security that normally exists between people in an intimate or family relationship: and
- b. Domestic abuse offences are regarded as particularly serious within the criminal justice system

4.5 I consider that the circumstances here require adjustment of the starting points for Counts 2 and 3 to 10 months and 15 months respectively and for Count 4 to 4 months.

4.6 I turn to aggravating and mitigating circumstances.

4.7 The offences are each seriously aggravated by your previous convictions which I judge to be highly relevant, and your commission of at least two of the offences under the influence of alcohol. I note that your first offence was driving with excess alcohol and have summarised your other offences. I have already taken into account the domestic context.

4.8 As for mitigation you have expressed through your advocate acceptance of responsibility and remorse but I place no faith or value in such expressions of acceptance or remorse from you. Your pattern is to commit offences and afterwards apologise, and produce excuses. Your prepared statement sought to shift blame anywhere but yourself.

4.9 I have considered the report on your supervision under licence. It is clear that you attended appointments as required but one of your key objectives was to remain abstinent from alcohol which you failed to do. Probation assess that to benefit from supervision you will need to be more forthcoming and honest during sessions. This report, combined with these offences, are poor indicators for a future licence.

4.10 I am told that since your recall you have reflected on what went wrong, and both taken worthwhile jobs in custody and engaged in programs to address your alcohol use. That I take into account.

5. Extended licence

5.1 Actual Bodily Harm is a specified offence under s.306 Sentencing Act. Because you have previously been convicted of manslaughter it is open to me to impose an extended licence if you meet the other criteria. It is patent from the commission of these offences on licence, and from your prior history that you pose a significant risk of causing serious harm to members of the public by the commission of further specified offences. The threat you pose is particularly to any new girlfriend and will be aggravated if you cannot control your drinking – and your track record so far is that you cannot.

5.2 The latest release date on your existing sentences is 23rd January 2029. That is a decision for others but I am satisfied that I must make provision for licence to apply into the future.

6. Sentences and credit for pleas

6.1 I conclude that the proper sentences for each offence had there been a trial would have been 12 months, 18 months and 6 months.

6.2 I treat you as having entered your pleas at the PTPH and so the law entitles you to 25% credit reducing those figures to 9 months, 13 ½ months, and 19 weeks which I shall treat as 3 months.

6.3 I then have to consider totality. I have regard to the fact that the time spent in custody hitherto will not count towards the sentences I pass today. I will make the sentences concurrent with each other but that requires an upwards adjustment to the most serious offence, Count 3. That is not a matter of arithmetic but of assessment.

6.4 The sentence, subject to the issue of dangerousness, on Count 3 would be 20 months, Count 2: 9 months and Count 4: 3 months concurrent with each other and, as is required by the law, concurrent with the sentences on which you have been recalled.

6.5 Because of my finding on dangerousness the sentence on Count 3 will be an extended sentence composing a custodial period of 20 months and an extended licence period of 4 years making a total of 5 years 8 months from today when you will remain at least under licence control.

HHJ Edmunds KC

14th September 2026