

Timetable set today for announcement of new Scottish Labour leader

Scottish Labour's ruling body has approved a timetable to elect a new leader who will be in place by the end of February.

The process begins on Saturday with expressions of interest for the leadership closing on Sunday, and nominations from MSPs open from Monday 18 January to noon on Tuesday 19 January.

If more than one candidate is validly nominated, the ballot will open on Tuesday 9 February and close on Friday 26 February.

The winner will be declared at an online announcement event on Saturday February 27. Scottish Labour chair Cara Hilton said: "The Scottish Executive Committee today agreed that a new leader of the Scottish Labour Party will be elected by a ballot of party members and affiliated trades union members in February.

"The new leader will be announced on 27 February and will lead Scottish Labour into the 2021 Scottish Parliament election with a fresh energy to carry Labour's message and take the fight to the Tories and the SNP."

The election of a new leader of the party is necessary after the resignation on Thursday by Richard Leonard.

Scottish Labour Party

Election of Leader of the Scottish Labour Party 2021

[A] Timetable

Saturday 16 January is the start of the Leadership election process.

The candidate code of conduct is in force from this point forward.

Affiliated supporters eligible to take participate shall be those who currently eligible to participate. Registered supporters will not be eligible to participate in this process.

Saturday 16 January	Timetable and procedures agreed Freeze date for eligibility to participate as a Labour Party member or affiliated supporter Declaration of interest open
Sunday 17 January, midnight	Deadline for declarations of interest.
Monday 18 January	Nominations open for Leader
Tuesday 19 January, noon	Nominations close <i>Validly nominated candidates for Leadership to be published</i> Scottish Labour hustings period opens Supporting nominations open
Wednesday 20 January, 5pm	Last date for members to pay off arrears in order to participate
Tuesday 26 January	Supporting nominations close
Tuesday 9 February	Ballot opens Scottish Party hustings period closes
Friday 26 February	Ballot closes
Saturday 27 February	Result announcement