

Lesley Macinnes steps down as SNP group depute leader

Cllr Lesley Macinnes who has been Depute Leader of the SNP group on Edinburgh Council for several years, has announced she is stepping back from the role, although will continue as a councillor.

The Liberton/Gilmerton ward councillor was previously the Transport Convener and responsible for many of the changes made during the pandemic. She also oversaw the decision to extend the tram to Newhaven. Although she stood in the leadership election earlier this year, this was won by Cllr Simita Kumar.



Cllr Lesley Macinnes, Scottish National Party. Photo: Martin P. McAdam www.martinmcadam.com

The SNP group will now elect a new depute leader later this month.

The leader of the SNP group, Cllr Simita Kumar, said: “Lesley has been a driving force within the SNP Group, known for her diligence and commitment. As Depute Leader, she has provided steadfast leadership to the group over seven years, and as previous Convener of the Transport Committee, she has spearheaded numerous transformative projects with both rigour and vigour. Her efforts have significantly contributed to the enhancement of our transport infrastructure and the overall

well-being of Edinburgh residents.

“On a personal note, I want to extend my heartfelt thanks to Lesley. She is not only a dedicated public servant but also a dear friend whom I respect immensely. Her experience and insights will remain invaluable and I’m pleased that she will continue to be a strong advocate for the SNP albeit in a different capacity.

“We now look forward to electing a new depute leader of the SNP in Edinburgh at our group meeting on 20th August. We’re lucky to have an incredibly strong array of talent in the group who can take the SNP in Edinburgh forward and hold this Labour administration and their Tory allies to account.”



Councillor Simita Kumar. © 2024 Martin McAdam