

Second by-election to be held in Colinton/Fairmilehead ward

Following the by-election held only last week when a Liberal Democrat councillor was elected in Colinton/Fairmilehead ward, there will now be a second by-election in the same council area.

The SNP councillor and former government minister, Marco Biagi, has announced his resignation from council saying that he is “taking up another position”.

Simita Kumar the leader of the SNP group on The City of Edinburgh Council said:” While we are sad to lose his dedication and expertise we are excited for his next chapter. He will be greatly missed by colleagues and constituents alike.”

The candidates in the November 2024 by-election were as below. With a turnout of 37.4% Liberal Democrat Louise Spence was declared the new councillor winning 2,683 first preference votes. Local elections use the single transferable vote method and the quota was set at 3,701.

The SNP candidate Mairianna Clyde achieved 800 votes – fourth place behind the LibDems, Conservatives and Scottish Labour. The previous by-election held in Corstorphine/Murrayfield in 2023 was also won by the Scottish Liberal Democrats.

The by-election will take place after Christmas but must take place within three months of the vacancy occurring – so it has

to happen by 19 February 2025.

▪ **CANDIDATES IN NOVEMBER 2024**

- Bonnie Prince Bob, Independent
- Mev Brown, Independent
- Mairianna Clyde, Scottish National Party (SNP)
- Neil Cuthbert, Scottish Conservative and Unionist
- Sheila Gilmore, Scottish Labour Party
- David Ian Henry, Independent
- Tam Laird, Scottish Libertarian Party
- Grant Lidster, Reform UK
- Richard Crewe Lucas, Scottish Family Party
- Daniel Aleksanteri Milligan, Scottish Greens
- Louise Spence, Scottish Liberal Democrats
- Marc Wilkinson, Independent



Marco Biagi