



BBC MOVE? Sky Sports presenter Eilidh Barbour hails from Dunkeld, Perthshire.

Barbour a 6-1 bet for taking top sports job

BY ANDREW ROBSON

Perthshire presenter Eilidh Barbour has been touted as a possible replacement for Gary Lineker on Match Of The Day (MOTD).

The Sky Sports presenter is one of several high-profile journalists or former footballers being linked to the job following Lineker's decision to step down from the flagship football programme.

Born in Dunkeld, Barbour attended the Royal School of Dunkeld and Breadalbane Academy in Aberfeldy. She went on to study cinematography and film/video production at Stirling University, graduating in 2005.

She returned to her home town in 2023 to officially open a new multi-use games area (Muga).

Barbour is well-known as a St Johnstone fan and also enjoys playing golf and hiking. She is probably best known for fronting Sky Sports' Scottish football coverage.

The presenter has made regular appearances on

BBC shows including covering for Lineker on MOTD and presenting sister show MOTD 2, Football Focus, SportsScene and The Women's Football Show, as well as the BBC's new Champions League highlights programme.

She is also the face of the BBC's TV golf coverage and presents the Women's Six Nations highlights.

Barbour has further worked at several major sporting events including the World Cup, Euros, Winter Olympics and Ryder Cup.

She presented the first Scottish women's domestic game to be broadcast on Sky Sports in 2022.

She previously described St Andrews-born presenter Hazel Irvine as her idol.

Barbour has been in a relationship with former Hibernian and Livingston midfielder Marvin Bartley since 2022.

During his spell as manager of Queen of the South in 2023, Barbour told The Courier: "He (Marvin) is super busy. I have a newfound

respect for football managers, I have to say.

"The work that goes into it, especially at a club where you're doing a lot of it yourself, is incredible."

Bartley has appeared on TV himself several times as a pundit.

Barbour found herself in the spotlight after walking out of the Scottish Football Writers' Awards in 2022.

It was in protest at comments made by after-dinner speaker Bill Copeland. She said his remarks were "degrading" to women and included "homophobic jibes".

Then-first minister Nicola Sturgeon praised her at the time, saying: "It is never easy for any woman to speak out in that way, particularly in what is traditionally a man's world, and Eilidh Barbour and her colleagues deserve credit for doing so."

Barbour is among those being touted as a possible replacement for Lineker with Ladbrokes having her at 6-1 alongside former player-turned-presenter Alex Scott.

How Lineker's £1.3m salary made him and the BBC a constant target

Match Of The Day host Gary Lineker was the BBC's highest paid on-air talent for seven consecutive years.

The former England football star's salary has been under the spotlight over the years, as he continued to be the only star paid more than £1 million at the corporation.

As the longest-serving presenter of football highlights programme Match Of The Day, Lineker earns between £1,350,000 and £1,354,999, according to this year's annual report published in July.

Veteran broadcaster Melvyn Bragg previously said Lineker's salary opened the broadcaster up for an "attack" on how it is spending licence fee money.

Bragg, the presenter of BBC Radio 4's In Our Time, claimed Lineker earned "27 times" his salary but that their shows have "about the same audience" numbers.



Gary Lineker is the highest paid on-air BBC talent.

Meanwhile, there are four women in the top 10 list of BBC highest earners who have not broken the £1 million threshold.

The highest paid woman in 2023-24 was Zoe Ball, presenter of the Radio 2 breakfast show, whose salary was between £950,000 and £954,999 - down slightly from the previous year.

The other three women

in the top 10 on-air salaries are: Question Time presenter Fiona Bruce (£405,000-£409,999); DJ Lauren Laverne (£395,000-£399,999) and news presenter Naga Munchetty (£345,000-£349,999). In 2020, Lineker signed a new five-year contract with the broadcaster which included a 23% pay cut from £1.75 million.

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TRANSMISSION

Pre-Application Consultation Event

We are pleased to be holding a statutory Pre-Application Consultation to present our proposals for the access road to the new Cambushinnie 400kV substation, which forms part of the Beauldy-Denny 400kV Upgrade Project.

The pre-application process is a key first step in the Town and Country Planning process for National planning applications.

During our face to face drop-in event you will be able to view our project proposals, ask questions to the project team and share comments and feedback. All stakeholders are invited to provide feedback specific to the proposals at this stage until **8 January 2025**.

The event will be held on:

Wednesday 20 November, 3-7pm
Braco Village Hall,
Feddal Road, Braco, FK15 9QD

We encourage all members of the local community and all interested parties to attend the event.



If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact our Community Liaison Manager:

Rosie Hodgart
1 Waterloo Street, Glasgow, G2 6AY

Tel: 07879 793 652 **Email:** BDUP@sse.com

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