

# **Chair of Scottish Covid-19 Public Inquiry steps down**

## **Lady Poole stepping down as Chair of the inquiry.**

The Hon Lady Poole is resigning as chair of the independent Scottish Covid-19 Public Inquiry.

Deputy First Minister John Swinney confirmed in a letter to MSPs that Lady Poole, a Senator of the College of Justice of Scotland, gave notice on Friday that she intends to step down from the role for personal reasons.

The Deputy First Minister said: "I am grateful to Lady Poole for the important work she has undertaken since the establishment of this Inquiry, and for her offer to assist with the transition to her successor during a notice period of up to three months. I thank Lady Poole for her work and wish her well.

"I have already spoken with the Lord President about arrangements for appointing a new judicial chair for the independent Inquiry.

"The Inquiry team has been drawing in key information as part of the important evidence-gathering process which precedes Inquiry hearings, and that work is continuing.

"The Scottish Government, and I know the independent Inquiry team, remain committed to this vital exercise, and people who wish to can continue to engage with the Inquiry.

"I will provide a further update to Parliament about a replacement Chair at the earliest possible opportunity."



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