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An urgent statement on the NHS Tayside scandal must be the first priority of the Scottish Parliament when it returns after the Easter recess, the Scottish Conservatives have said.

The health board has been mired in financial difficulties, culminating in reports that charity cash was used for the day-to-day running of hospitals.

Today, chairman John Connell stood down amid "special measures" being implemented by the Scottish Government.

Now shadow health secretary Miles Briggs has demanded urgent action from his counterpart in the SNP government, Shona Robison.

## **Scottish Conservative shadow health secretary Miles Briggs said:**

"The actions from Shona Robison and the SNP which we have witnessed over the last 24 hours demonstrate a government which has lost control of our NHS and which has lost what remaining respect it had from NHS staff.

"NHS Tayside is not the only health board facing serious financial management issues.

"SNP ministers have presided over a situation where financial scrutiny of NHS Boards and the Integrated Joint Boards has been at best insufficient and at worse incompetent.

"After 11 years of Nicola Sturgeon and the SNP centralisation and mismanagement it will clearly now suit incompetent ministers to blame NHS senior management for the failings and financial difficulties which we have seen across the board.

"Perhaps it's time they started to look closer to home."