

Scotland

SNP backbencher's public inquiry call

SNP backbencher Jim Fairlie says there should be a public inquiry into disgraced neurosurgeon Professor Sam Eljamel.

Eljamel was suspended as the head of neurosurgery at NHS Tayside in 2013 after "butchering"

numerous patients with botched operations.

Almost 100 patients left with life-changing injuries are demanding a public inquiry is held.

Up until now, no SNP MSPs have backed the group's calls.

However, Mr Fairlie has written to Health Secretary Michael Matheson saying the Scottish Government should U-turn and open a public inquiry. This comes after the Perthshire South and Kinross-shire MSP met Jules Rose, the last person to be operated on by Eljamel at NHS Tayside.

Ms Rose was diagnosed with a rare brain tumour, but Eljamel removed her tear duct instead. She said: "I am absolutely thrilled because Jim Fairlie is the first to come out from the SNP and back our calls."