

Nicola Sturgeon apologises after 109 patients were sent to care homes in Perth and Kinross without COVID test

In May 2020 the Perthshire Advertiser revealed 109 patients were discharged into care homes across the region from March 1 to April 19, 2020 without a COVID-19 test

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By [Kathryn Anderson](#) Local Democracy Reporter 16:01, 16 APR 2021 | UPDATED 15:46, 19 APR 2021

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“We were having to take the decisions we thought were best.”

She added: “We thought it was wrong to leave older people in hospitals about to be overrun by COVID. We thought they would be safer in other settings with the right infection protection procedures and isolation procedures in place.

“And we didn’t know what we know now about asymptomatic transmission.”

Ms Sturgeon expressed regret and said: “I cannot turn the clock back and know everything then that I know now. It’s inevitable that we will have got things wrong but that doesn’t mean the sense of responsibility we feel for that is any less.”

The first minister reiterated there would be a full public inquiry which she said she hopes will get underway later this year.