

# SOUTH WALES POLICE ILLEGAL CONDUCT (1)

## insidetime

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**Nick Hardwick**

## Failure to disclose evidence 'routine and deliberate'

● "If you don't want the defence to see it, then it goes on the MG6D" - a list of sensitive unused material which the defence doesn't have access to.

● Police "have been trained to put items on there [MG6D] that they do not want disclosed to the defence." Chief Inspector

● "Officers put undermining material on the MG6D list to hide it." Prosecutor

### Inside Time report

The scandal over important information which might undermine prosecutions being deliberately hidden from defendants hit the news again last month as new information pointed to institutionalised failings around disclosure.

According to The Times the failure by police and prosecutors to disclose vital evidence in criminal cases to the defence is routine and deliberate. They say a dossier reveals a commonly held view that the defence is not entitled to see all the evidence and discloses tactics used to avoid its disclosure, with police in at least one force trained in avoiding making

material that might undermine their case available to the defence.

The file draws on the reports of 14 focus groups with the police, and others with prosecutors and judges, as well as a survey of prosecutors. The comments in the dossier include one prosecutor saying: "In even quite serious cases, officers have admitted to deliberately withholding sensitive material from us and they frequently approach us only a week before trial. Officers are reluctant to investigate a defence or take statements that might assist the defence or undermine our case."

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### From prison

"A black guy wearing a

or the road but business

