

Gilfoyle diary 'still a mystery'

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The Chief Inspector of Constabulary has been called in after a police force was accused of sitting on evidence that could have cleared a man imprisoned for murdering his pregnant wife.

It emerged yesterday that 20 years after Eddie Gilfoyle was arrested for hanging his wife, Paula, and making it look like suicide, police are still unable to explain how her diary was seized and then kept secret. The box of evidence was withheld from Gilfoyle, 50, as he fought two unsuccessful appeals. Police also failed to provide it to the Criminal Cases Review Commission.

Gilfoyle is now free on parole. Merseyside Police last week asked the Independent Police Complaints Commission to look into the failings, but yesterday the watchdog said the case fell outside its powers. It added: "The circumstances surrounding the seizure and retention of the box remain unclear.

"We understand the Chief Constable of Merseyside Police has asked Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary to identify another police force to conduct a full review."

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