Report of rape found to be false

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Police are satisfied that allegations made by a man who claimed to be raped in Wythenshawe are false.

Officers were called to Greenwood Road in the early hours of Friday 18 October 2013, after a man claimed he had been attacked and raped.

Following detailed enquiries however, officers now believe the rape could not have taken place.

A 22-year-old man has been given a fixed penalty notice for wasting police time.

Superintendent Sarah Jones said: "We do not believe that this rape took place."

"This would have naturally been a worrying incident for the community therefore I hope this news gives them reassurance."

"A substantial amount of time went into investigating the incident, but officers also had to work very hard to reassure a community already concerned by a number of other reports of sex offences in the area. Those who lie run the risk of creating unease and anxiety for everyone else."

"This does not change the fact that we take all reports of rape seriously and investigate thoroughly and without prejudice, which can be demonstrated by our significant investment in relation to this report."

"Incidents such as this detract our resources away from genuine reports that need our valuable time."

"Greater Manchester Police encourages anyone who has been a victim of rape or any sort of sexual abuse to come forward, but I must also stress the importance of providing police with genuine reports due to the time we devote to investigating these cases."

"I hope this does not deter victims from coming forward to police. We have specially-trained officers who give a tremendous amount of time and support to anyone who has been a victim of rape and we work closely with the St Mary's Sexual Assault Referral Centre. We can not only help you, but also put your attacker behind bars."

- If you or someone you know has been raped or sexually assaulted, we encourage you not to suffer in silence and report it to the police or a support agency so you can get the help and support available.
You can call Greater Manchester Police on 101, or alternatively people can refer themselves to St Mary's Sexual Assault Referral Centre on 0161 276 6515.

St Mary's Sexual Assault Referral Centre in Manchester provides a comprehensive and coordinated forensic, counselling and medical aftercare service to anyone in Greater Manchester who has experienced rape or sexual assault. Services are available on a 24-hour basis and people can access them either as a self-referral or via Greater Manchester Police.