A WOMAN who made three false claims of rape has been cautioned for wasting police time.

A major hunt was launched after the 47-year-old told police she had been viciously raped after a night out in Preston in December.

The woman later admitted she had consensual sex with a man and had claimed rape so her boyfriend would not be angry.

She also admitted she had made two other false accusations.

Det Insp Roger Price, of Preston CID, said: "The woman reported what appeared to be 'stranger rape'. However the investigation showed the act took place with consent.

"The woman admitted this and had previously made two false claims of rape."

The woman claimed to have been raped after a night out in Preston on December 5. She said she met a man in a takeaway and he offered to take her for a drink.

She said the man led her down a track in Frenchwood and raped her when she refused his advances.

But she had had consensual sex man with a stranger after a row with her boyfriend and the innocent man later found himself suspected of being a rapist.

Realistic

To make her story look realistic, she feigned distress and ran to a chip shop on London Road for help.
The woman was taken to Preston's specialist Safe Centre for the victims of sexual assaults, and examined.

The cost of a 12-hour investigation was nearly 800.

Det Insp Price said: "We arrested her for wasting police time.

"She admitted all three false claims and was cautioned. She was left under no illusion that proceedings would follow if this happened again.

"The police have a difficult balance in ensuring victims of sexual assault are not put off from coming forward and fighting against the trauma of people being arrested for offences they have not committed.

"The action we took in this case was highly unusual but it was the third occasion this woman had made a claim of rape.

"All complaints of rape are fully investigated and taken as genuine. All complainants are treated with dignity and respect."

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https://www.lep.co.uk/news/woman-arrested-over-false-rape-allegations-1-139253