Rape hoax leaves community in shock

The letters, which are graphic in content, detail how two women have been raped in Shaw, Oldham.

By Pete Bainbridge

Detectives are trawling CCTV after dozens of hoax rape warning letters were left on car windscreen.

The letters, which are graphic in content, detail how two women have been raped in Shaw, Oldham.

But police have told residents in the area to ignore the letters, which officers now believe are bogus.

Detectives say they thoroughly investigated reports detailed in the letters which claim two sex attacks that took place late at night, and that the claims are ‘totally false’.

The police said that the accusations made in the letters had left residents in fear.
They said the letters were made on a computer and are now being forensically examined. Officers are now going through CCTV footage to see if they can trace who has left the letters.

Detective Constable Tony Anwas said: “There has understandably been a lot of anxiety and rumour as a result of these malicious letters being left on people’s car windscreens.

“Rumours spread in such a small area and can quickly become ‘fact’ so I want to reassure residents that we have investigated this matter thoroughly and no such rapes or sexual attacks have taken place.

“It is unclear why the author has gone to such trouble to make these accusations, but they are totally false and there is no need for residents to be concerned or worried.

“Police in Oldham take every report of rape or sexual assault very seriously and all reports are investigated. Our number one priority is to protect the people living and working in our communities and where evidence of any criminality is found, be it sexual or otherwise, we will take action.

“However, we also need to protect our communities from unnecessary fear from malicious rumours which is exactly what this letter is doing.”

https://www.manchestereveningnews.co.uk/news/oldham-rape-hoax-letters-leaves-6712081