Caution for teen who ‘cried rape’

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The 19-year-old claimed she had been attacked by the friend of an ex-boyfriend after a night out in Cardiff city centre.

A full-scale investigation was launched with search teams and forensic scientists on the case but detectives found a number of discrepancies in her account.

When questioned about these she broke down admitting the allegation was false.

Police have stressed this case should not deter other genuine victims of sex attacks from coming forward.

Detective Inspective Paul Andrews, head of Cardiff Central CID, said: “We treat all allegations of rape seriously and will always carry out a thorough investigation which will either identify and secure supported evidence or in some cases uncover discrepancies.

“The public can have every confidence in our commitment to fully support victims, and to prosecute offenders.”

The 19-year-old woman from Tremorfa, Cardiff, called police from her mobile phone in the early hours of Tuesday, May 15, saying she had been attacked.

She was found by officers distressed with torn clothes near the Grange pub, Grangetown, Cardiff.

Specialist search teams trawled the back lanes for evidence while her clothes were forensically examined.

It was while analysing CCTV that officers began to notice inconsistencies in her version of events.
As a result she was arrested on Wednesday and when questioned admitted that she had made the allegation because she was ashamed of what had happened.

She felt she could not retract the accusation once the investigation was in full swing.

She was formally cautioned on the advice of the Crown Prosecution Service.

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