A MAN who has admitted making up a claim that he was raped in a park has been fined for wasting police time.

The 23-year-old man from Prescot confessed his allegations about a sexual attack in Taylor Park, St Helens, on Sunday, February 25 were lies.

Detectives in St Helens had to carry out extensive investigations but eventually the man admitted he had made up the story.

He was issued with an £80 fine and now top St Helens police officers vow they will take strong action against people who waste police time and resources.

Officers are concerned false reports also increase the fear of crime, with the fabricated rape allegation having caused alarm when initial reports filtered around some neighbourhoods.

In a separate incident, a 40-year-old man from Parr falsely reported an assault on March 11. The man claimed he had been punched but police enquiries revealed that he had made a false allegation. He was also fined £80.

In a statement, Detective Chief Inspector Dave Brunskill - the head of St Helens CID - said: "We take all reports of offences extremely seriously and those who make false claims are committing a criminal offence.

"Anyone who is thinking of making a false report should be warned that very effort is made, in the early stages, to establish whether a crime has actually occurred and we won't hesitate to take action against people who make false allegations."
"People who do this should realise that they are not only increasing the fear of crime in St Helens, but they are wasting valuable police time, which we want to spend where it's really needed - helping victims of real crime."

http://www.wirralglobe.co.uk/news/1276076.Man_lied_about_park_rape/