Two teenage girls who made 'false' rape allegations escape prosecution

TWO girls who made up stories about being raped in an alleyway off a well-known Merseyside street have escaped prosecution.

BY LIVERPOOL ECHO

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TWO girls who made up stories about being raped in an alleyway off a well-known Merseyside street have escaped prosecution.

The teenagers sparked separate police hunts on successive weekends near Lord Street in Southport.

The girls, 17 and 18, made allegations they were raped by unknown men in the early hours of the mornings.

On each occasion, the scene was cordoned off and forensic experts combed the area, leaving a cost totalling thousands of pounds.

Now, the teenagers accounts have been picked apart as police described their accusations as ‘false.’

They have been reprimanded for their behaviour, but officers decided against launching a criminal prosecution.

Neither girl had been with any man at the time of the alleged incident and fabricated the tale about being sexually assaulted.

They gave loose descriptions of their supposed attackers, but the vague nature of the complaint made officers suspicious.
The first report was made on Friday, September 24, after the pretend ordeal just before 5am.

A member of the public raised the alarm when the 17-year-old was seen in a distressed condition.

The teenager said she had been attacked in an alleyway next to the HSBC bank on Lord Street.

She had suffered injuries included bruising to her legs and knees and was taken to hospital for treatment.

Police now think the girl may have sustained the wounds during a fall.

The scene was sealed off, police visited the scene to hunt for clues and the force’s specialist rape investigation team took over the enquiry.

The second inaccurate report was made on Sunday, at 6.30am, again in the same alleyway, next to Barclays Bank.

The 18-year-old gave a statement stating she was raped, which again, was later found to be a lie.

Police told the ECHO the hoaxers did not know each other and ‘had their own reasons’ to make up the stories.

Detective Inspector Lee Turner said: "Following extensive enquiries the two recent allegations of rape and sexual assault have been proved to be unsubstantiated.

"The two women who have made these false reports have been reprimanded for their behaviour and now realise that there are severe penalties for making false allegations of sexual assault and for wasting police time.

"These allegations would undoubtedly have caused considerable concern to the community of Southport and we would like to reassure the public that these incidents did not happen.