Police close rape inquiry

A teenager falsely told police she had been raped as she was walking back from a night out in Stratford.

The 18-year-old girl said she had been raped in the early hours of Saturday, July 17, as she made her way down a canal towpath.

Police launched an inquiry, but after further interviews with the girl, have closed the case.

Det Insp Bob Bradbury said: “As a result of police inquiries and further interviews with the woman, there is no evidence to substantiate that an offence took place.”

The girl had claimed she had been walking home along the Stratford Canal tow-path, between the Birmingham Road bridge and Timothy’s Bridge Road.

She claimed she had been dragged her into bushes and stinging nettles at the side of the path.