Police close rape inquiry

Police are no longer looking for anyone in relation to a rape complaint after New Year's Eve.

Detective Dave Prentice said police had been contacted by a man on the east coast of the North Island in relation to a 16-year-old Marlborough girl's allegations that she had been raped at the Tahuna Beach Holiday Park. No charges would be laid, he said.

Police said many hours were spent investigating the allegation and the girl was interviewed again this week after the man came forward. She would not be charged with making a false complaint.

Police began an investigation when the girl complained she had been sexually violated after becoming separated from her friends.

She had been at a Nelson house earlier in the night but had walked to the camp about 9.30pm and joined a crowd of about 700 people to watch a wet T-shirt competition.

She alleged she was then raped near the N and O blocks, an area called the "bullring".

Mr Prentice said during their investigation police had talked to about 30 campers in the park as well as receiving a number of calls from members of the public.

He thanked everyone in the community who had helped.