

Hibs' Under 20s star David Paul dies at home in Edinburgh



Eighteen year old Hibs' youth player David Paul has died at his home in Edinburgh.

The youngster was a regular player for the club's successful Under 20s team who are currently top of the league.

The club issued the following statement on their website: "It is with great sorrow that Hibernian FC today confirms the sad death of youth player David Paul (18).

"David, who could play in midfield or in attack, passed away in the early hours of today at his home in Edinburgh. There are no suspicious circumstances surrounding David's untimely death.

"David's father, Gordon, said the family were devastated. He thanked those who have contacted the family to express their condolences and offer support, and asked that his family be allowed privacy to come to terms with their loss.

"Chairman Rod Petrie said: "Everyone at the *Club is deeply affected by this. David was a talented and promising young footballer, and a fine young man. Our thoughts – and the thoughts of the entire Hibernian community – are with his family at this dreadful and difficult time for them.

"Whilst we understand that people will wish to offer their support, we hope that the wishes of the family for privacy will be respected."

Tributes poured in for David from friends and teammates.

Hibs' captain Liam Craig tweeted: "Shocked and devastated to hear the news of young David Paul. Thoughts are with his family, a young man who won't be forgotten.

Tim Clancy tweeted: "Life can be cruel indeed. A gentleman and very talented young man gone far too soon. Thoughts are with his family. RIP David xx

Paul Cairney tweeted: "RIP David Paul, one of the nicest guys you could meet. What a great talent. Thoughts are with his family at this sad time.

Former teammate Alex Harris tweeted: "Known him for many years and I can truly say I have never met a more humble and down to earth guy than David. He had the world at his feet and it's been sadly taken away from him. Thoughts are with his family and will be forever in my thoughts. RIP David Paul."

Head of Academy Coaching James McDonough tweeted: "I take great pride in my players and how they grow into footballers or other careers. Today David was taken away far too early.