

Police investigate 'horrendous' sexual assault in Leith Links area



Police in Edinburgh are appealing for witnesses following a serious sexual assault in North of the city.

The incident happened around 1am today in the Leith Links area.

A 28-year-old woman was approached by a man who produced a knife before subjecting her to the attack.

The man then made off and the victim contacted police. Officers are now carrying out a thorough investigation of the scene.

Anyone who can assist with this ongoing enquiry is asked to come forward.

The suspect is described as being of Pakistani/South Asian appearance and wearing a grey hooded top and black tracksuit bottoms.

Detective Inspector Keith Fairbairn said: "This was a horrendous attack, which left the victim deeply distressed and she is now being supported by Police Scotland and other relevant partner agencies.

"The incident was carried out in a public area and we are keen to hear from anyone who was in or around Leith Links in the early hours of Thursday morning and saw anything suspicious.

"Similarly, anyone who recognises the description of the suspect, or who has any further information that can help us

trace the man responsible is also asked to contact police immediately.”

Chief Inspector Sara Buchanan said: “We understand that this incident may have an impact on the local community and so high-visibility patrols are currently being deployed within the Leith Links to engage with members of the public and offer reassurance.

“In addition officers will be liaising with relevant partner agencies to assist anyone affected by this attack.

“I would urge anyone who wishes to speak with an officer in relation to this incident to approach one of the officers at the scene, contact 101 or make an anonymous report via the charity Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.”