

# Police hunt man who raped female jogger in Armadale



A police investigation is underway after a 32-year-old woman who was out jogging was assaulted and raped on a footpath which runs parallel to the A801 near the racetrack in Armadale around 9pm on Tuesday.

The suspect grabbed the woman from behind and punched her in the face, knocking her to the ground before carrying out the sex attack. The victim suffered injuries to her face, back and shoulder.

The culprit then ran off and the victim returned home before going to hospital, where the attack was reported to police.

Detective Superintendent Pat Campbell from Lothian and Scottish Borders CID said: "This has been an absolutely terrifying ordeal for the victim and we are continuing to provide her with all the necessary support and assistance she requires while we progress this investigation to identify the male responsible.

"We are extremely eager to hear from anyone who remembers seeing any suspicious activity on the footpath or around the racetrack."

"The area is popular with dog walkers and joggers and so we are hopeful that someone may have vital information relevant to our inquiry.

"If you believe you saw something, or can help provide us with a better description of the suspect then please contact police immediately."

Chief Inspector Barry Blair, the local area commander for West

Lothian, said: "Horrific crimes such as this remain rare within West Lothian, but nevertheless, we recognise the significant impact they can have on the community and local officers will be supporting the investigation by conducting high-visibility patrols in and around the area where the attack took place.

"In addition, a police command vehicle will be in place at the scene and members of the public can attend at this unit to provide information, or speak with the officers out on patrol.

"Rest assured we are utilising all resources at our disposal to bring the suspect to justice and I would reiterate the appeal for those who believe they can assist with our inquiries to get in touch."

Those with information can contact Police Scotland on 101 or the charity Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.