



MEDIA RELEASE

Waikato Police District

01 August 2009

Cambridge Police are appealing for witnesses to a vicious and random attack in the town overnight that saw two men stabbed, one suffering serious injuries.

A cordon remains in place at the intersection of Victoria St (SH1) and Queen St to allow detectives to complete a scene examination this morning.

Detective Dean Schrader of the Western Waikato CIB said the attack on the 34 and 31-year-old men happened about 11.20pm.

"It appears our offender has been walking with a woman in an area opposite the Town Hall and he has taken exception to two men walking in front of them who have been laughing at something as they walked home.

"Without warning the offender, a 23-year-old local man, has approached the victims and tried to provoke them, punching one in the face."

A struggle has taken place that resulted in the offender fleeing and one of the men, the 31-year-old being left on the ground at the north-west end of the town hall suffering stab wounds to his left arm and face.

The man's injuries, particularly the head wound, are described as serious.

The second victim has tried to aid his companion and suffered a stab wound to the back, his injuries are described as moderate but not life threatening.

Police located the offender at a Hamilton Rd (SH1) address where a cordon was established by the Waikato Armed Offenders Squad and a voice appeal commenced.

"The AOS were called in on account of the random and serious nature of the attack," said Mr Schrader.

"The voice appeal initially succeeded in getting the offender's male and female flatmates out of the house, both were unaware of what had occurred earlier."

A short time later the offender surrendered to Police and is currently in custody facing two charges of wounding with intent to cause grievous bodily harm.

While the man suspected of carrying out the attack is in custody Mr Schrader said there was still a lot of work that remained to be done.

"Importantly we are still to recover the weapon used in the attack which we believe was a knife.

"If anyone finds a weapon of this type in the Cambridge area we ask that you don't move it, ensure it won't be disturbed and contact Police," he said.

The area of Victoria St between Queen and Alpha Streets is expected to remain closed for several hours as a forensic examination is carried out.