'VICE girl' Deborah Hart caused more than a little confusion after police arrested 'her' for soliciting men in Soho.

For, after charging her with a prostitute friend and releasing them on bail, West End Central police found fingerprint checks revealed Hart was really a man.

And the case of the 'vice-girl' on Thursday remained a mystery for a London magistrate who wanted to know if she ever tells sex clients she is a man.

The 21-year-old blonde, of Glanville Road, Blenheim Gardens, Brixton Hill, stormed out of Marlborough Street Court when in a last-minute switch, police changed the soliciting charge to importuning, costing her a £100 fine while other vice-girls were getting away with £20.

Magistrate Mr St John Harmsworth, who heard Hart had a record for importuning, had asked: "If somebody accedes to your invitation, do you in point of fact tell them you are a man?"

"I have had an operation," replied Hart, alias Kevin Spence.

"Do you tell them you are a man?" persisted the magistrate.

But Hart insisted: "I am a woman, Sir."

Hart, with make-up and hair in a pony-tail, was dressed as a woman in the dock, in white tights, black leather skirt and coat, gold earrings and dark glasses.

He was described as a female on the charge sheet, and after police dropped the soliciting charge, admitted "being a man, you persistently importuned for an immoral purpose."

Hart was granted 28 days to pay the £100 fine.

After the hearing, Hart said: "I'm furious. I was going to plead guilty to soliciting but now I've got to pay £100 instead of £20."

Hart, who has not had a full sex-change operation, admitted: "I do trick my punters."

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