



21 September 2020

### **RSIPF arrests 19-year old male for alleged sexual intercourse with 14-year old girl**

Officers of the Royal Solomon Island Police Force (RSIPF) at Gizo in Western Province have arrested a 19-year-old teenager from the Paeloge Heights at Vancouver Village, in Gizo Western Province in relation to an alleged sexual intercourse incident with a 14-year-old girl in August 2020.

Provincial Police Commander Western Province Chief Superintendent Mathias Lenialu explains, "The victim is 14 years old from Keru Village, New Georgia Island in Western Province and she resides with her parents at Gizo Town. The incident occurred at unknown times during day and night times within Gizo Island."

"Police conducted an investigation into the matter after it was reported to police at Gizo by her parents. The defendant was arrested on 15 September 2020 and was formally charged with six counts of sexual intercourse with a child under 15 years. He has been remanded at the Gizo Correctional Centre for 14 days.

"I want to appeal to girls and women who may have been victims of sexual assault to come forward and report the matter to police quickly so we can investigate at an early stage to avoid the incidences reoccurring," says PPC Lenialu.

//End//

#### **Media inquiries**

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The Royal Solomon Islands Police Force (RSIPF) was established in 1954. Its mission is 'To provide a safe and peaceful Solomon Islands by strengthening relationships with the community'. The RSIPF strive to provide efficient and effective policing services for the Solomon Islands and expect RSIPF officers to adhere to the RSIPF values.

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