



16 November 2020

### **RSIPF appeals for peaceful by-election**

The Royal Solomon Islands Police Force (RSIPF) appeals to the people of Central Honiara and North East Guadalcanal constituencies for a peaceful by-election this Wednesday 18 November 2020.

The by-election in both national constituencies have become necessary after the Members of Parliament lost their seats in election petitions after the National General Election April 2019.

RSIPF Commissioner Mostyn Mangau says, “RSIPF calls on all citizens, including chiefs, elders, church leaders and all women, men and youth leaders of the two constituencies to assist your police in ensuring that our communities remain safe and peaceful during the by-election.

“Let us continue to show respect for one another and maintain peace like we did during the National General Election in 2019. Respect for one another is an integral part of Solomon Islands traditional culture. Do not allow any disagreements to cause divisions amongst us.”

“About 500 police officers will be deployed to polling stations in the two constituencies and on the streets of Central Honiara to ensure the polling on Wednesday this week is done peacefully and that registered voters are allowed to cast their votes without any fear of violence,” says Commissioner Mangau.

He adds, “RSIPF also wants to appeal directly to all candidates and your supporters and political party members to remember your responsibilities as leaders during this period of voting. Please observe rules and regulations under the Electoral Act to make sure the voting is done lawfully. This includes all campaign activities must end by midnight tonight (16 November 2020) as campaigning after the campaign period is an offence.”

**//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.

For ongoing news and information, please go to [www.rsipf.gov.sb](http://www.rsipf.gov.sb)

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