



5<sup>th</sup> January 2021

### **RSIPF continues community visit and conduct awareness talk at the Western border**

Royal Solomon Islands Police Force (RSIPF) officers serving the common border between Solomon Islands (SI) and Papua New Guinea (PNG) have visited and conducted awareness talk at Toumoa Village in the Shortland Islands on 3 January 2021.

The visit and awareness talk has been conducted by officers based at Kariki Police Post under the leadership of Constable Singstone Rilalo following request from the community leaders on the risk of marijuana, kwaso (Homebrew) and illegal sale of liquor in the communities.

Police Forward Command Post (PFCP) Commander, Kulitanai Police Station, Superintendent Collin Pitakesa says, during the awareness the team reminded the community that “Police will deal with anyone found involve on these illegal activities in the communities.”

Superintendent Pitakesa says, “Apart from the awareness program, police operation to monitor the common border illegal crossing still continue and police has step up its security capability during this current COVID-19 pandemic.”

Superintendent Pitakesa adds: “Police is currently using drones to boost its operations at the border. The drones should be respected and people should not attempt to throw rocks at it or afraid when seeing it flying around the coastal areas.”

“The State of public emergency has been extended due to continue threat by the coronavirus pandemic to our country. Police call on our good people at the border to continue with health hygiene practices and social distancing as we continue to fight against the deadly virus, “says Superintendent Collin Pitakesa.

Commander Pitakesa thanked Kariki police officers for carrying out the awareness task and most importantly the community leaders and church leaders for welcoming the police into their communities.

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#### **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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