



23<sup>rd</sup> July 2021

### **RSIPF statement following news article on armed group**

The Royal Solomon Islands Police Force (RSIPF) would like to make a clear statement following a news article published on 23 July 2021 on 'ARMED GROUP PLOTTING TO OVERTHROW GOVT'.

Commissioner of Royal Solomon Island Police Force (RSIPF) Mr Mostyn Mangau says, "I want to make a very clear and strong statement in relation to the news article that police are aware and investigating this matter very seriously."

Commissioner Mangau says, "This is extremely a threat to the national security and Police will not tolerate any armed groups or criminals who are taking the opportunity to plan their crimes to threaten the sovereignty of this nation."

He says, "RSIPF appeals to members of the public including those in Honiara and Guadalcanal Province to play an important role to help spread the message to our people, relatives and friends to avoid fear mongering or spreading misleading information to our communities. Such plan will only affect the lives of our people and essential services in our country."

"There are legal avenues available for people to voice their concerns on matters affecting their lives other than planning to commit crimes and breaking our laws. We do not want to go back to our dark moments where lawlessness had crippled our beloved country, Solomon Islands," Commissioner Mangau emphasises.

He adds, "I call on the National leaders, community leaders and church leaders to work together with police to make sure our communities are safe and peaceful. I call on the Media to balance reporting and publication for public consumption as such reports will only cause fear and panic to our good people."

**//End//**

#### **For any media inquiries**

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The Royal Solomon Islands Police Force (RSIPF) was established in 1954. Its mission is 'To provide a safe, secure and peaceful Solomon Islands'. The RSIPF strive to provide efficient, capable and responsive policing service and expect RSIPF officers to adhere to the RSIPF values.

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