



# Royal Solomon Islands Police Force

## Media Release

4<sup>th</sup> August 2021

### Police warns public to stop gambling in public places

Officers of the Royal Solomon Islands Police Force (RSIPF) at City Response Unit (CRU) assisted White River Police and Honiara City Council (HCC) Law Enforcement Unit to serve letters to six people at the 01 Bus Stop area in White river for illegal gambling known as 'TE KA PAS'.

Provincial Police Commander (PPC) Honiara City Superintendent John Matamaru says, "Complaints have reached the Commissioner's office that "Te Ka Pas" gambling game is common and rapidly growing 24 hours and seven days a week at White river 01 bus stop and surrounding areas."

PPC Matamaru says, "This activity attracts a huge number of people including drunkards which causes all sorts of public nuisance and disturbances to nearby residences."

"These gatherings are illegal and also not in accordance with the State of Public Emergency (SoPE) COVID-19," adds Superintendent Matamaru.

A strong warning has been issued to stop as of 3 August 2021. The people concerned have agreed and are willing to comply.

Whilst the team is still on the ground, some information came in that similar activity have also occurred at Banana Valley area. The team attended that area and found people actually playing. They were also advised to stop immediately.

"White river police are closely monitoring the areas of concern; arrest will be done if anyone fails to comply." PPC Matamaru emphasizes.

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#### Media inquiries

RSIPF Media Unit:  
24016 or 23800 Ext 239

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

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Solomon Islands and expect RSIPF officers to adhere to the RSIPF values.

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