



26th August 2022

Gizo police conduct awareness program in Kuava Village

The Community Policing Unit of the Royal Solomon Islands Police Force (RSIPF) in the Western Province have conducted an awareness program at Kuava Village in Vella la Vella Island on 23 August 2022.

This is following a request from east Vella la Vella circuit of the United Church girls brigade coordinator who sees the need for the girls to possess some vital information with regards to law due to the high increase of sexual offences occurring against young girls in the province and other parts of the country.

During the awareness programme police told the girls about the changes and amendments done with the penal code in relation to Sexual Offences Act in 2016 where provisions are provided for victims of sexual violence to report their issues to the police for investigation.

The girls were told about the types of sexual offences and abuses that many young girls in the country have encountered today and is increasingly happening in our societies affecting many innocent young girls living in the communities without being reported.

The awareness team also explained to the girls about the criminality of child commercial sexual exploitation which provides for persons who obtains commercial sexual services from child, as well as for parents or guardians who permit their child to be used for the provision of commercial sexual service.

Officer In-Charge (OIC) Community Policing Unit, Western Province, Staff Sergeant (SSgt) Alick Alesena said, such cases normally happened in logging camps and it is right and timely that the girls in Kuava village can be informed of this as there are logging camps operate in our country.

SSgt Alesena said, the girls were given advice to look after themselves, not to walk alone to school, garden, bush or any isolated place where it would pose risk to themselves and should report anything of any sexual nature happening to them with anyone they could trust.

Kuava Girls Brigade had 40 active members consisting mainly of young girls who are still attending kindy, primary and secondary education with ages ranging from 6 – 18 years old.

United Church girls brigade coordinator Ms Unice Sasabule thanked the police for the talks. We had engaged some agencies during some of our activities in their past programs for the girls but never with the police.

We are happy and believe that what the girls have listened to would help them to do the right thing. Whenever they are faced with any situations when they are grownups, she adds.

Provincial Police Commander (PPC) Western Province, Chief Superintendent Mathias Lenialu would like to thank the church for their positive role in trying to do their best in raising the girls with the spiritually aspect of their life.

Superintendent Lenialu called on the parents to also see the urgency of issues affecting girls in the communities today to take up responsibilities to protect the safe wellbeing of their young girls.

The Gizo community policing office still hopes to conduct similar talks with the nearby communities and schools in the coming weeks.

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For any media inquiries

RSIPF Media Unit contact:

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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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