



Australian High Commission
Solomon Islands

MEDIA RELEASE

AUSTRALIA AND SOLOMON ISLANDS PROGRESS SOVEREIGN POLICING CAPABILITY

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Australian and Solomon Islands officials met in Honiara in mid-April for talks on the Royal Solomon Islands Police Force (RSIPF) Expansion Program.

The two countries met with a shared objective: to deliver programs and infrastructure that will further strengthen the development of a sovereign, capable and confident RSIPF.

Senior officials at the talks affirmed that the RSIPF Expansion Program and the Police Academy would be transformational for Solomon Islands' security, and that the benefits would be both domestic and regional, contributing to Solomon Islands' role in Pacific security.

This is reflective the Pacific-led concept of security set out in the Biketawa and Boe Declarations, with the program's package of funding, training and infrastructure designed to strengthen Solomon Islands' sovereign security capabilities within this regional framework.

A centrepiece of the program is a new RSIPF Academy in Honiara, which will enable the RSIPF to train and develop police officers more effectively and sustainably.

The meeting was co-chaired by the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Police, National Security and Correctional Services, Karen Galokale, and Australia's High Commissioner, Jeff Roach, who each highlighted the strong momentum and commitment driving implementation.

"Both Solomon Islands and Australia share a common vision and are continuing to make progress on this project," PS Galokale said. "Today's discussions have set a clear direction for the RSIPF Academy, which will be a lasting legacy for the next 50 years of Solomon Islands' history."

“The calm, reassuring role played by the RSIPF in the context of the nation’s recent challenges, such as TC Maila, has demonstrate the central role of the RSIPF kin both national security and nation-building.”

“I am pleased that today we made some important advancements together in our shared program to expand the RSIPF. This work is about the future of the RSIPF and the goals of the Solomon Islands Government and its National Security Strategy,” High Commissioner Roach said.

Implementation meetings occur every two months, bringing together senior officials to drive delivery of the commitment made between the Solomon Islands and Australian governments in December 2024.

Last week’s discussions focused on progressing the design of the new Police Academy, where Solomon Islands’ priorities and operational requirements remain central to this work.

Ahead of the meeting, a small contingent of Australian and Solomon Islands officials visited Lambi on Guadalcanal’s west coast to survey the site of a new police post as part of the Expansion Program. The Lambi Post will be the first of many new provincial police sites delivered under the program.

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PHOTOS:



Caption 1: The construction of Noro Police Station, funded and project managed by the Australian Federal Police, opened in November 2025.



Caption 2: RSIPF, AFP and Defence join together for a briefing in the field.



Caption 3: Australian Army soldier Sapper Patrick Bear and Royal Solomon Islands Police Force officer Inspector Clifford Tanuki search for unexploded ordnance during Operation Render Safe 2019.