INFORMATION GUIDE FOR SEX WORKERS DURING THE COVID-19 CORONA CRISIS
This guide was made possible thanks to information collected and made available by Doctors of the World Belgium, the Federation of Social Services (FDSS), Bruss’Help and the Observatory for AIDS and Sexuality (OSS).

We also thank the King Baudouin Foundation, the municipalities of Sint-Joost-ten-Noode and Schaerbeek for their support during this crisis.

Thanks also to the many citizens who took part in our fundraising, which enables us to help the most vulnerable sex workers today.

And finally, a big thank you to our volunteers who have invested in the meticulous research to complete this guide in the best and fastest way possible for the entire community of sex workers.
Due to the COVID-19 health crisis, sex workers are no longer allowed to continue working. At the time of writing, it is impossible to make statements about when sex work will be possible again in Belgium.

In the meantime, it is not always easy to know what rights and support you are entitled to, both on a health and financial level.

This guide, which certainly does not contain all possible options or help resources, collects information about your rights and the most important services in Belgium, so that you can receive the best possible support.
HEALTH
ALL OVER BELGIUM

Your health is of paramount importance during this period, not only with regard to the coronavirus COVID-19, but also with regard to other diseases and conditions.

COVID-19

- If you suspect that you are infected, immediately contact your doctor. If you don't have one, contact one of the sex worker prevention and health services below (on page 4) to help you find a doctor. UTSOPI can also help you get in touch with these services if necessary. In this case, please contact Daan on 0472/25 64 26 or Nora on 0470/81 44 45.

- If you do not live alone (roommate, family, etc.) and you live with someone who is at an increased risk of infection, if possible follow the following measures:

1. Sleep in separate beds.
2. Use different bathrooms.
3. Do not use the same towels, the same cutlery or glasses.
4. Disinfect daily contact zones (seats, chairs, tables, ...)
5. Wash the house linen regularly.
6. Keep your distance at home.
7. Ventilate the rooms.
8. Call the emergency services in case you or your housemate has a fever of more than 39 degrees or difficulties breathing.
9. After contact with a suspected person, keep quarantine for two weeks to avoid infecting anyone else.

- If you have COVID-19, you can be cared for by the hospital at no extra cost. Don’t risk being treated for fear of extra costs!

- For all other questions about the coronavirus: http://info-coronavirus.be or call 0800/14 689.
BRUSSELS

Specific services for sex workers:

Organizations that help and support sex workers remain operational during this health crisis. You can contact them. These services are free, accessible to people without health insurance and they operate under strict confidentiality.

Alias

Alias is a psycho-medical-social service for male and transgender sex workers in the Brussels-Capital Region.

Field work is carried out on Friday and / or Saturday evenings from noon to 5 am, depending on the needs.

Alias can be reached by e-mail and telephone for all psychosocial questions (a listening ear, accommodation, urgent medical assistance, PCSW, residence status, ...) from Monday to Friday from 10 am to 5 pm: info@alias-bru.be, 0485 / 02.12.48. Here you will find the emails and numbers of the individual team members.

To make an appointment with the doctor: 0486 / 92.52.60

There are online chat sessions on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons from 3 pm to 5 pm.

Digital reception and chats are also possible on https://www.info4escorts.be/nl on Monday from 10am to 5pm; Tuesday from 3 pm to 5 pm; Wednesday from 2 pm to 5 pm and from 8 pm to 10 pm, Thursday from 3 pm to 5 pm and Friday from 8 pm to 10 pm.

More information: http://www.alias-bru.be

Espace P...

Espace P carries out consultation by appointment only (if necessary). For more detailed information, please contact the staff.

Brussels: 0471 / 73.40.89
bruxelles@espacep.be

Visiting hours for intake interviews, social activities and medical and social visiting hours are temporarily suspended. Field outreach will be suspended until further notice.

The team remains available by email and telephone, as well as via social media.

For more information: www.espacep.be

Contact person for UTSOPI Brussels during this crisis :

Nora 0470/81.44.45 nora@utsopi.be
Gynecology, contraception and abortion

Several services remain open and available with regard to any request for contraception, gynecology and / or abortion. Your health is important and the fight against the coronavirus should not be at the expense of other health problems.

Centers for General Welfare Work (CAW)

Centers for General Welfare (CAW) offer emergency consultations for gynecology (tests, contraception, pain, bleeding, etc.). Emergency contraception and abortion are also possible.

Please note: if you have had a risky contact, it is necessary to inquire about emergency contraception, but also about treatment after exposure to HIV (PEP treatment). The Alias, Espace P... and UTSOPI associations can help you with this.

Go to www.caw.be to find the nearest center.

HIV and STD tests

If you have had unprotected intercourse, several services are available to help you. Do not hesitate to inform them about your activity as a sex worker, this information is important for the medical assessment.

It is currently not possible to be accompanied during the medical assessment.

S Clinic

The S clinic offers consultations on sexually transmitted diseases (STDs). This service is only possible in case of emergency. The urgency of your case is evaluated by telephone on Monday and Thursday from 1.30 pm to 4 pm.

Contact :
322 Rue Haute, 1000 Bruxelles - Route 900
Phone: 32 (0)2 535 37 32
CETIM

CETIM is a HIV / AIDS reference center in Brussels that is accessible to people without social security. CETIM does not offer tests, only treatment of diseases.

The center is open on Mondays and Thursdays from 1.30 pm to 4 pm and by appointment only.

Contact:

322 Rue Haute, 1000 Brussels - Route 900
Phone: 32 (0) 2 535 31 77

Alias

For very urgent STD screening, by appointment only and during the working week. People who have been exposed to a significant risk we encourage to go to the S clinic. The Alias doctor is available for appointments at 0486 / 92.52.60, from Monday to Friday 9:00 AM to 9:00 PM. For all other questions, the Alias team can be reached from Monday to Friday from 10:00 to 17:00 on 0485 / 02.12.48.

Sexual violence

These services are strictly confidential and free of charge.

Care center after sexual violence

The care center after sexual violence is a reception center for all victims of sexual violence (woman, man, transgender, child). Despite the downsizing of the teams during this crisis, the center remains open and accessible 24/24 and seven days a week.

Contact:

Centre 320, Hoogstraat 320, 1000 Brussels
Phone: 02 535 45 42

Remember:

- If a customer has refused to pay you / taken back the money, you may consider this a sexual assault. A sexual relationship with the customer is only consensual if it is paid. Otherwise it is defined as sexual harassment.

- A man can also be a victim of sexual violence. Just because you’re a male sex worker doesn’t mean it can’t happen to you.
SOS Viol – 0800 98 1 00

A help line for victims of sexual violence and those close to them.

General medicine

If you do not have a General Practitioner and need a consultation, the Athena Center and the Humanitarian Hub remain available.

Athena Center

Call for an appointment in the Athena center between 9am and 6pm to schedule a medical appointment at 0494 / 18.90.24.

If you have symptoms of COVID-19 (cough, fever, sore throat, trouble breathing, loss of taste and / or smell) and without the possibility to make an appointment, you can go directly to the Humanitarian hub between 11 am and 4 pm

Contact details:
Bld Bischoffsheim 31, 1000 Brussels (left door)
Monday to Friday 9am - 6pm
0494 / 18.90.24 / 02 / 244.53.02
info@athenabrussels.be
https://www.athenabrussels.be/

Humanitarian HUB

The HUB is not intended to encourage non-essential movements in the city or to replace existing structures. The HUB suggests using the nearest consultation center earlier, including the Athena Center, which also remains open (9 am-6pm) to provide medical consultations to anyone without access to care.

In the case of Covid symptoms, you are asked to preferably go to the HUB.

Contact details:
100 Av. Du Port, 1000 Brussels
+32 (0) 470 / 71.52.65
Other useful numbers

BXL Soutien is a number for people with any kind of social need (housing, finances, ...)

Hebt u hulp nodig? Bel

BXL Soutien

0 800 35 243

N°VERT GRATUIT

van maandag tot vrijdag van 8u tot 21u / In het weekend van 10u tot 18u.

Er zijn officiële groepen nummer, ingesteld door de Tramme Ondersteuningscommissie en de Fédération des Services Sociaux.

BXL Soutien is a number for people with any kind of social need (housing, finances, ...).
Specific services for sex workers

Organizations that help and support sex workers remain operational during the health crisis. You can contact them. These services are free, accessible to people without health insurance and they operate under strict confidentiality.

Espace P...
Espace P services are only available by appointment (if necessary). For more detailed information, contact staff members on their cell phone:

**Arlon**
- Boelen Benjamin 0467/05.86.84
- Buyssens Isabelle 0474/13.86.54

**Liège**
- Burette Paule 0488/27.30.62
- Bechet Julie 0488/27.29.23
- Pierantionio Adrien 0488/27.30.79
- Biethieres Dominique 0488/27.29.52

**Namur**
- Antenne Namen 0478/36.62.93
- Pavel Robert 0471/73.48.86

**Charleroi**
- 0471/54.28.23

**Mons**
- Byloo Géraldine 0493/17.43.73

**Tournai**
- Pilette Julie 0471/88.05.33

Intake, activities and medical and social services are temporarily suspended. Street work will be suspended until further notice. The team will continue to be available via email, telephone and social media.
Espace P published specific advice for sex workers in the following languages:

French
English
Spanish

ICAR Wallonia

Following the various measures taken in Belgium with regard to the coronavirus, ICAR Wallonia had to limit its services. The association no longer has reception staff on site. However, the team is still available by phone on 04 / 223.18.26

ICAR Wallonia will continue to do field work.

Other useful numbers

Wallonie Urgence Sociale is a number for people with any kind of social need (housing, finances, ...)

Wallonie Urgence sociale
luttepauvrete.wallonie.be

1718
Appel gratuit
Specific services for sex workers

Organizations that help and support sex workers remain open during the health crisis. So you can contact them. These services are free, also accessible to people without health insurance and they operate under strict confidentiality.

Violett

Violett’s teams will continue to be available via telephone, mail, whatsapp and social media for social counseling. Consultation hours and medical consultations have been temporarily suspended. Urgent medical help is still possible by appointment by telephone.

www.violett.be

Violett Antwerp 03 293 95 91  sociaal.antwerpen@violett.be  dokters.antwerpen@violett.be
Violett Ghent 09 233 47 67  sociaal.gent@violett.be  dokters.gent@violett.be
Violett Hasselt 011 33 30 58  sociaal.hasselt@violett.be  dokters.hasselt@violett.be

Contact person for UTSOPI in Flanders during the crisis:

Daan 0472/25.64.26  daan@utsopi.be

Contact the Violett team members directly via Whatsapp or mobile phone: www.violett.be/nl/over-violett/ons-team/
Boysproject’s location is closed as long as the government continues to impose restrictive measures.

The staff members can be reached on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 10 am to 5 pm by mail, telephone, WhatsApp and Facebook. During these hours you can also chat with care providers on the site www.info4escorts.be.

JASPER + 32 479 81 12 68 info4escorts.jasper@gmail.com
ROEL + 32 476 99 55 75 info4escorts.roel@gmail.com
SANNE + 32 476 88 50 55 info4escorts.sanne@gmail.com
NICOLAS + 32 475 75 30 63 info4escorts.nicolas@gmail.com
SAAR + 32 475 50 33 14 info4escorts.saar@gmail.com
BREGJE + 32 476 88 37 13 info4escorts.bregje@gmail.com
SOCIAL INSURANCE BENEFITS
ALL OVER BELGIUM

The government has introduced a range of measures that allow people to claim replacement income during the pandemic. In general, this replacement income is only possible if you have somehow declared your activity to the state. If not, you must turn to social assistance.

You are self-employed as a main occupation.

• Bridge right

What?
This support measure applies to anyone who is self-employed (also as a secondary occupation) who is obliged by the government to interrupt all or part of his / her activity. It also applies to anyone who has had to partially or completely interrupt his / her activity as a result of the corona crisis for a period of at least seven consecutive calendar days.

How much?
The bridging right amounts to € 1291.69 without family burden and € 1614.10 with family burden.
In order to determine the family situation, a certificate from the health insurance fund is not required and a statement on the self-employed’s honor that he / she has or does not have a family load is sufficient.

How to apply?
For help in English, contact the following service: https://www.nisse.be/en/contact
You must submit an application form to your social secretariat (Xerius, Liantis, Acerta) or through an accountant with a mandate.

More detailed information can be found at:
• Reduction, postponement or exemption from payment of social security contribution

Reduction:

Every self-employed person can always request a reduction of his / her provisional social security contributions. Because of the coronavirus crisis, your request will be dealt with fast and it will be almost automatically approved. The application must be submitted via your social security fund (Xerius, Liantis, Acerta, ...).

Postponement:

You can also request a deferment of payment. Beware, deferral is not an adjustment. The contributions will have to be paid later. All self-employed persons may apply for a postponement of the provisional social contributions for the first and second quarters of 2020.

This request must be made:

• before 3/31/2020 to defer payments for the first and second quarters of 2020;
• before 6/15/2020 to defer payments for the second quarter of 2020.

Please contact your social insurance fund for this.

Exemption:

It is also possible to request an exemption if you are experiencing financial problems due to the corona virus. State on the application form and once again when submitting the application that you are submitting the application due to the Corona virus. The files are processed almost automatically for the provisional contributions of the first two quarters of 2020. Also for this option, please contact your social insurance fund.

Attention! Are you applying for your exemption from contributions online? Then you should also report this to mailbox-dvr@rsvz-inasti.fgov.be for faster processing of your file.

• Deferral of payment of VAT, payroll tax, personal income tax and corporate income tax

What?

Everyone’s payments of VAT are automatically deferred for two months. The same goes for the payroll tax, personal income tax and corporate income tax.

For more detailed information:


• Deferred payment of debts or exemption from fines with the tax authorities

Those who have debts with the tax authorities can apply for a postponement of payment or an exemption from fines. For more information on this, please visit: https://finance.belgium.be/en.
You are self-employed in a secondary occupation

Are you entitled to support?

At the moment there is still much uncertainty about this.

We know this for sure:

Are you entitled to a reduction in social security contributions? Yes. You must request this through your social insurance fund before the due date for this quarter.

Are you entitled to an deferral of payment of social security contributions? Yes, if you pay provisional contributions that are at least equal to the minimum contributions for self-employed persons in a secondary occupation. Contact your social insurance office for more information.

You are not entitled to an exemption from social security contributions for the first two quarters of 2020.

You are entitled to the crisis bridge right on condition that you pay provisional social contributions that are at least equal to the minimum contributions for self-employed persons in a secondary occupation.

For more detailed information, please visit:

You are an employee

You are an employee in a bar, club,... that had to close as a result of the corona crisis. Then you can rely on the following government support measures. But only if you both:

- are officially registered as an employee
- your social security is paid in Belgium

• You are still under contract

What?

You are now temporarily unemployed and can apply for benefit. You do this with the simplified form « C3.2 employee corona ». There are no conditions. The number of legally performed working days is of no importance.

How much?
This benefit amounts to 70% of your effectively declared gross salary. However, you will be paid € 1450 as standard. Keep this in mind, the excess will be reclaimed through your taxes on your income for the year 2020.

How to apply?

You can fill in a form on-line at the following Unemployment Benefits website (only in one of the three official languages in Belgium): https://www.hvw-capac.fgov.be/nl/nieuw/rijndelijke-werkloosheid-wegens-overmacht

Is this not possible?

The document can also be printed, completed and delivered to HVW or your union. Here you will find the document: https://www.hvwcapac.fgov.be/sites/default/files/assets/forms/c3_2_werknemer_corona_fill_1.pdf

Please do mind : the employer must also take action.

He or she must inform the social insurance fund of the number of days that the employee has been temporarily unemployed from 13 March (according to contract). Based on this, they will calculate the wages and that information will be passed on to the unemployment benefits office, which will make the deposit.

It is irrelevant whether your official residence is in Belgium or not to apply for this aid. If you are an EU citizen, you should not even be on Belgian territory. Even if you have returned to your home country, you can claim temporary unemployment, as long as your social security is paid in Belgium you are entitled to a benefit. You must not be in Belgium during the unemployment period because you do not have to be available for the labor market during this exceptional period.

• You have been fired

What?

If you want to claim unemployment benefits, you can do this at your union.

How much?

This depends, among other things, on how much you earned and what your family burden is. More detailed information can be found at

https://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?catId=1102&langId=en&intPageId=4425

Beware: unfortunately in this case you will be charged how many working days are on your pay slip. If that number of days is too low, you are not entitled to unemployment benefit and we refer you to the last chapter of this guide, where we go deeper into support from the OCMW / CPAS.
How?

For this you go through the following steps:

1. Request your form C4 from your employer.
4. Contact your union. They need the above documents to apply.

You are not independent or employee

As mentioned before, this part does not only apply to people who do not have a self-employed or employee status, but also to people who have too few working days on their pay slips to receive unemployment benefits.

- Living wage / societal integration benefit

What?

Partial or full living wages can be applied for at the OCMW / CPAS. To be entitled to this, you must meet a number of conditions. You can find those here:

(only in one of the three national languages).

Naturally, each situation will be assessed individually, and even when applying for a living wage you must first submit an unemployment claim as described in the previous section.

How much?

As a cohabitant you are entitled to € 626.74 per month, as a single € 940.11 per month and as a cohabitant with family expenses € 1270.51 per month.

How to apply?

You should look for the nearest welfare agency or local service center. If you live in Flanders or Brussels, you can enter your place of residence and find out where your nearest welfare office is:

https://www.desocialekaart.be

Need help with this?

Various social organizations can help you with this. You can find these organizations in the first chapter of this guide.
I am not entitled to anything that was mentioned

If your personal situation was not described in the above, we invite you to consult the next chapter “Grassroots Solidarity Initiatives”. Various initiatives were taken by UTSOPI to make it possible for everyone to survive this crisis in a sound and dignified way.

If you need urgent financial assistance, please contact us directly:

**Brussels**
- Nora 0470/81.44.45 nora@utsopi.be

**Wallonia**
- Marie 0485/62.08.41

**Flanders**
- Daan 0472/25.64.26 daan@utsopi.be

**National coordination**
- Maxime 0470/19.16.12 maxime@utsopi.be
**BRUSSELS**

**Contact person for UTSOPI in Brussels during the crisis:**

Nora 0470/81.44.45  nora@utsopi.be

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**Nuisance premium**

**What?**

This premium applies to any company (businesses, shops and establishments) that have been closed on the basis of decisions made by the government to prevent the spread of the coronavirus.

In general, very few sex workers are entitled to this premium unless they have evidence that they have had to close a physical location to prevent the spread of the coronavirus.

You can only claim this premium if your NACE code can be found in the following list:


**How much?**

It is a one-off premium of € 4000.

**How to apply?**

You can submit your application online until 1 June, 2020 using the form that will be available here soon:


More detailed information about the Brussels nuisance premium can be found at:

**WALLONIA**

**Contact person for UTSOPI in Wallonia during the crisis:**

Marie  0485/62.08.41

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**Nuisance premium**

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**What?**

This premium applies to any company (businesses, shops and establishments) that have been closed on the basis of decisions made by the government to prevent the spread of the coronavirus.

In general, very few sex workers are entitled to this premium unless they have evidence that they have had to close a physical location to prevent the spread of the coronavirus.

You can only claim this premium if your NACE code can be found in the following list:

[https://indemnitecovid.atlassian.net/wiki/spaces/SDC19/pages/6259033/Quels+sont+les+codes+NACE+eligibles](https://indemnitecovid.atlassian.net/wiki/spaces/SDC19/pages/6259033/Quels+sont+les+codes+NACE+eligibles) (only in French).

**How much?**

It is a one-off premium of €5000.

**How to apply?**

Eligible companies and self-employed people have **60 days from the end of their activity** to apply.

The application form is available online at [https://indemnitecovid.wallonie.be/#/](https://indemnitecovid.wallonie.be/#/) (only in French and German).

More information about the Walloon nuisance premium can be found at the following address: [https://www.1890.be/article/fonds-wallon-covid-indemnites-aux-entreprises](https://www.1890.be/article/fonds-wallon-covid-indemnites-aux-entreprises) (only in French).
Nuisance premium

What?

Companies and self-employed persons in the Flemish region that have had to close because of the measures taken for the corona virus are entitled to this premium.

In general, very few sex workers are entitled to this premium unless they can offer evidence that they have had to close a physical location to prevent the spread of the coronavirus.

If you are self-employed in a secondary occupation, you are only entitled to the nuisance premium if you pay social security contributions that equal those of a self-employed person in the main occupation.

How much?

- Once € 4000 for the first 21 days.
- Then € 160 per extra day.

How to apply?

You can submit an application on the Vlaio website: https://www.vlaio.be/nl/nieuws/corona-hinderpremie-staat-online-aanvragen-kan-vanaf-nu (only in Dutch).

More detailed information about the Flemish nuisance premium can be found at the following address: https://www.vlaio.be/nl/subsidies-fanciering/corona-hinderpremie (only in Dutch).
GRASSROOTS SOLIDARITY INITIATIVES
UTSOPI is a community association. This means that the organization only has sex workers as members, who in turn are committed to supporting other sex workers. We believe in our collective strength and our ability to develop a network of aid and support, especially during a crisis like this.

UTSOPI has taken several initiatives to support sex workers during this crisis, including calling upon citizen solidarity via fundraising.

Emergency support for sex workers

Thanks to fundraising and support from various partners, we have been able to create an emergency fund to help our colleagues in difficulty as quickly as possible.

This emergency fund is mainly used for:
- Basic needs (food, hygiene, basic products, etc.)
- Medical expenses
- Help with paying for housing

All requests are handled individually and replies and financial transfers are made within 24 to 48 hours. Solutions are possible for people who do not hold a bank account.

For every request:
- Contact us directly at help.utsopi@gmail.com;
- Via one of the employees of UTSOPI;
- Through our partners (see first chapter).

Hot- and helpline

UTSOPI has established two helplines for the duration of the measures, available Monday to Thursday from 10am to 6pm. The people answering your call are employees from UTSOPI, who therefore know of the specific reality of sex workers.
Private discussion groups

Two online discussion and support groups have been established to support and keep each other informed during the COVID-19 crisis, one in French and English, the other in Dutch and English. These groups are only accessible to sex workers.

Due to confidentiality, we cannot communicate the web addresses of these groups directly. We ask you to contact one of our employees with the request to be added.

Every request is subject to verification to keep these places safe, they are only accessible to sex workers. While this can slow down the membership process, anonymity and confidentiality are the top priorities for UTSOPI.

For any request, you can contact Daan (daan@utsopi.be) for the Dutch- and English-speaking group or Nora (nora@utsopi.be) for the French- and English-speaking group.

UTSOPI Corona TV

During quarantine, UTSOPI will continue to disseminate information about the rights of sex workers. We do this by way of weekly webinars, in which we engage with national and international experts. You can find all these talks on our UTSOPI Corona TV Youtube channel.

If you are a sex worker and would like to participate in these online conversations, please contact Daan (daan@utsopi.be) for the Dutch part or Nora (nora@utsopi.be) for the French part.

Please note that the majority of these conversations are held in Dutch or English.
UTSopi has set up a food distribution point in – currently only - Brussels, specifically for sex workers.

This food distribution is not intended to replace existing services, but to supplement the existing offer for those who cannot / do not want to switch to other food package services.

If you are concerned with your livelihood, please contact us directly or contact one of the services referred to in the Health section (Chapter 1) to determine together if there is another food package service that is nearby and better suited to your needs.

Our food parcels are distributed once a week in the heart of the North District in Brussels.

To organize and reserve the number of packages required, please contact us in advance to obtain the address and time of delivery.

To register:

- Contact Nora, the person in charge of the coordination of food distributions (Nora - 0470814445 - nora@utsopi.be);
- Send an email to help.utsopi@gmail.com;
- Contact us through our Facebook page.
WHAT IF I HAVE NO OTHER CHOICE BUT TO KEEP WORKING?
In this COVID-19 crisis, we discouraged you strongly to continue working. Not only for your health, but also that of your clients and those around you. That is obvious.

It is also clear that the government now considers sex work as "prohibited", although there is no official ban. A ban is not possible since sex work is not considered as work by the government.

Nevertheless, it is the view of the authorities that no sex worker should receive a client during this period. Still, some will have no choice but to continue their activity. Here is a chapter with some tips for those in this situation.

**Support associations**

First of all, we advise you to contact the various associations and / or the grassroots solidarity initiatives. While we are aware that asking for help is never easy and pleasant, there are ways to ensure you don’t have to work.

If you have not had an opportunity yet, we invite you to contact these various services, all of which can be found in Chapters 1 and 3 of this guide.

**Alternatives for dates with clients**

- **Webcam**

  It is not allowed to have "physical" dates with your customers, but a switch to the virtual is possible. Numerous online platforms allow us to offer "webcam shows", allowing you to ensure a certain income base during the lockdown. But be careful, the issue of anonymity comes up here. It is not always easy to hide your face during these sessions, and it is very easy to record a screen on camera.

  If you are considering this alternative, we recommend that you contact other colleagues who have experience with it. They can give you "tips and tricks" and inform you about things you should pay attention to.

- **Sale of products / clothing**

  A large number of existing platforms allow sex workers to sell underwear or other products to their customers. This source of income is lower than the previous one, but makes it easier to remain anonymous.

- **Clients offering support**
Several colleagues have reported to us that they are relying on clients for financial support during this period.

Although most clients have good intentions, we do warn you about possible blackmail or financial dependence. Many clients will expect something in return for their help at the end of the quarantine. You then have little room to negotiate what to do in return and how long this should take.

If customers come to help you financially, try to find out as much as possible in advance how they consider the help offered, what they expect in return, ...

I continue working

If, despite all the options and alternatives, you see no other choice than to continue to see customers, then you must take maximum precautions.

To minimize the risk of contamination, guidelines can be found on the Belgian site Info4Escorts: https://www.info4escorts.be.
Due to the COVID-19 health crisis, sex workers are no longer allowed to continue working. At the time of writing, it is impossible to make statements about when sex work will be possible again in Belgium.

In the meantime, it is not always easy to know what rights and support you are entitled to, both on a health and financial level.

This guide, which certainly does not contain all possible options or help resources, collects information about your rights and the most important services in Belgium, so that you can receive the best possible support.