

BtG Sex Worker Survey

Survey information and consent

The Beyond the Gaze project (www.beyond-the-gaze.com) is a major study exploring how the Internet has affected the UK sex industry. The study is participatory, having current and former sex workers as part of the team and other mechanisms for consulting sex workers.

This survey is for sex workers living and/or working in the UK who use the Internet in their work. It asks about your use of online and digital technologies, working conditions, job satisfaction and safety. The results of this research will be used to inform policy and practice in order to improve working conditions and services to sex workers using the Internet.

Your contribution to this research is most welcome. **Your results are anonymous and no identifying features are collected.** The survey should take no more than 15-20 minutes to complete. **Please complete the survey in one sitting**, as if you leave it you will not be able to save your answers and resume the survey at another time.

Everyone who takes part in the survey will be eligible to be entered into a prize draw. **There are three prizes of £50 vouchers to be won.** If you wish to be entered for the prize draw, you will be asked to provide your email address, which will only be used for this purpose and will be deleted once the draw has taken place.

If you have any questions about the survey, or the wider project, please contact Rosie Campbell by email at rc377@leicester.ac.uk or by phone/whatsapp on 07834148333

1. Do you wish to participate in the survey?

Yes

No

Referral questions

2. Which site did you access this survey from today?

- AdultWork
- Amber Cutie Forum
- Beyond the Gaze
- Big Beautiful Women
- Big Tit Hut
- Good Escort Forum
- Manchester Lads
- National Ugly Mugs (NUM)
- Pretty Big Escorts
- Punternet
- SAAFE
- Select an Escort
- Sleepyboy
- Twitter
- UK Adult Zone
- Vivastreet
- West Yorkshire Sex Guide
- Other

2.a. If you selected Other, please specify:

3. Do you think you may have completed this survey before?

- Yes
- No

About your work

4. What sex work do you currently do? Please select all that apply.

- Independent sex work/escorting
- Sex work/escorting through agency
- Webcamming
- Phone sex work
- Brothel/sauna/parlour sex work
- Street sex work
- Exotic dancing/stripping
- Adult film industry/porn
- Modelling (glamour/erotic)
- Sexual massage
- BDSM (submission and/or domination)
- Other

4.a. If you selected Other, please specify:

5. How long have you been doing your current type of sex work?

- less than one year
- 1-2 years
- 3-5 years
- 6-10 years
- more than 10 years

Use of online and digital technologies in work

6. How long have you advertised or offered sexual services online?

- less than one year
- 1-2 years
- 3-5 years
- 6-10 years
- more than 10 years

7. Which websites/online platforms do you use to advertise and/or offer your services? Please select all that apply.

- AdultWork
- Agency website
- Backpage
- Big Beautiful Women
- Big Tit Hut
- BirchPlace
- Chaturbate
- Craigslist
- FetLife
- Gay Escort Club
- Gaydar
- Good Escort
- Grindr
- HaloBoys
- Locanto
- Manchester Lads
- MyFreeCams
- PlanetRomeo
- Pretty Big Escorts
- Punterlink
- Punternet

- Select an Escort
- Sleepyboy
- Streamate
- The Oldest Profession (TOP)
- Twitter
- UK Adult Zone
- Vivastreet
- West Yorkshire Sex Guide
- Other

7.a. If you selected Other, please specify:

8. Overall, what do you think of the quality of services provided by these online platforms?

- Very good
- Quite good
- Neither good nor bad
- Poor
- Very bad

8.a. Please give some reasons for your answer. (e.g. rates charged, quality of customer service, efficiency of service etc)

9. Do you have your own website?

Yes

No

10. Which websites do you use to access advice and/or support? Please select all that apply.

AdultWork forum

AmberCutie

Facebook

Good Escort forum

National Ugly Mugs

SAAFE

Twitter

Other

None of these

10.a. If you selected Other, please specify:

Working practices, conditions and job satisfaction

11. Do you share working premises with other sex workers?

- Yes
- No
- Sometimes

12. Do you pay for any of the following services to assist you with your sex work business?

Please don't select more than 1 answer(s) per row.

	Yes	No	Sometimes
Accountant	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Administrator	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Driver	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Manager	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Marketing Consultant	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Photographer	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Receptionist/Maid	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Security	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Web designer	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

12.a. If you selected "yes" or "sometimes" for Other, please specify.

13. On average, how many hours per week do you spend on the following:

Please don't select more than 1 answer(s) per row.

	1 - 5	6 - 10	11 - 15	16 - 20	21 - 25	26 - 30	more than 30	don't know
Providing services to clients in person or online	<input type="checkbox"/>							
Other tasks related to sex work, including administration, advertising, emails and other communication	<input type="checkbox"/>							

14. What is your average gross annual income from sex work (that is, before any deductions including taxes)?

- less than £5000
- £5000 - £9999
- £10,000 - £19,999
- £20,000 - £29,999
- £30,000 - £39,999
- £40,000 - £49,999
- £50,000 - £59,999
- £60,000 - £69,999
- £70,000 - £79,999
- £80,000 - £89,999
- £90,000 - £99,999
- £100,000 or more
- prefer not to say

15. On the whole, how satisfied are you with working conditions in your sex work job?

- Very satisfied

- Satisfied
- Not very satisfied
- Not at all satisfied
- Don't know

16. For each of the statements below, please indicate how often you feel this way about your sex work job?

Please don't select more than 1 answer(s) per row.

	Always	Most of the time	Sometimes	Rarely	Never	Don't know / doesn't apply to me
I am enthusiastic about my job	<input type="checkbox"/>					
I feel exhausted at the end of the working day	<input type="checkbox"/>					
I feel my work is socially useful	<input type="checkbox"/>					
In my opinion I am good at my job	<input type="checkbox"/>					
I get emotionally involved in my work	<input type="checkbox"/>					
I feel isolated in my work	<input type="checkbox"/>					
I experience stress in my work	<input type="checkbox"/>					

17. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements about your sex work job?

Please don't select more than 1 answer(s) per row.

	Strongly agree	Tend to agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Tend to disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know / doesn't apply to me

I make decisions on how I organise my work	<input type="checkbox"/>					
I can decide when I work	<input type="checkbox"/>					
I can decide where I work	<input type="checkbox"/>					
I can decide how I spend my earnings	<input type="checkbox"/>					
I am able to refuse clients by my own judgement	<input type="checkbox"/>					
I am well paid for the work I do	<input type="checkbox"/>					
I can choose what sex acts to perform	<input type="checkbox"/>					
I am treated fairly at my workplace	<input type="checkbox"/>					

18. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

Please don't select more than 1 answer(s) per row.

	Strongly agree	Tend to agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Tend to disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know / doesn't apply to me
I have trusting relationships with my work colleagues	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
I have good relationships with my clients	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
I feel disrespected by clients	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
I worry about my neighbours finding out about my work	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
I am concerned that the police may visit my working premises	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

19. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements about use of the Internet and digital technologies for your work:

Please don't select more than 1 answer(s) per row.

	Strongly agree	Tend to agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Tend to disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know / doesn't apply to me
Having access to the Internet enables me to organise my work	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The Internet enables me to make decisions about where I work	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The Internet enables me to make decisions about when I work	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The Internet enables me to work independently without having to rely on third parties	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The Internet is important for me to access clients	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The Internet enables me to monitor enquiries and screen potential clients	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The Internet enables me find out about my rights at work	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
I am worried that my friends and/or family may find out about my sex work through the Internet	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The Internet gives me access to sex worker networks and peer support	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The Internet gives me access to other sources of support	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The Internet has improved the quality of my working life	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The Internet has increased the amount of time I spend managing my work	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
I would not do sex work if it wasn't for the Internet	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Crime and safety

20. What methods do you use to enhance your safety when you are working? Please select all that apply.

- Buddy system
- Having someone present in a working location
- Door security
- Driver
- CCTV
- Panic button/alarm system
- Using National Ugly Mugs (NUM) alerts
- Using sex worker forums (e.g. SAAFE) for warnings/alerts/peer discussions
- Using Ugly Mugs Ireland alerts
- Using a phone number checker
- Using methods for screening potential clients
- Seeing only/mostly regular clients
- Sharing safety information informally with other sex workers
- Avoiding use of drugs or alcohol at work
- Other
- None

20.a. If you selected Other, please specify:

21. How important is the Internet in helping your safety at work?

- Very important
- Quite important
- Neither important nor unimportant
- Not very important
- Not at all important

21.a. Please give some reasons for your answer. (e.g. what is about the Internet that helps to make work safer and/or what safety concerns do you have using the Internet for work?)

22. Have you experienced any of the following crimes or incidents in the past five years and/or past 12 months in your current sex work job?

	Yes, in the past 5 years	Yes, in the past 12 months	Not experienced in the past 5 years
Threatening or harassing texts, calls or emails	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Verbal abuse	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Persistent or repeated unwanted contact or attempts to contact you through email, text or social media	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Repeated unwanted contacts or attempts to contact in person, or persistent following or being watched	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Physical assault	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sexual assault (including rape or removal of condom without consent)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Threats of violence	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Theft or robbery	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Non-payment or attempting to underpay for services'	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Burglary (e.g. unlawful entry to your property with intent to steal, do damage or inflict bodily harm)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Use of your personal information or account details to obtain money or buy goods/services without your consent	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

22.a. If you selected Other please specify.

If you answered "not experienced in the past 5 years" to all of the above please go straight to question 26.

23. In your opinion, were any of these incidents motivated by the individual's attitudes to sex workers?

- Yes
- No
- Not sure

23.a. If you answered yes, why do you think the incidents(s) may have been motivated by attitudes towards sex workers?

24. Have you ever reported incidents to the police?

- Yes
- No

Experiences with police

25. How satisfied were you with how your complaint was handled by the police?

- Very satisfied
- Quite satisfied
- Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied
- Quite dissatisfied
- Very dissatisfied

25.a. Please provide reasons for your answer.

Improving safety

26. How likely are you to report any incidents to the police in future?

- Very likely
- Quite likely
- Neither likely nor unlikely
- Quite unlikely
- Very unlikely

26.a. Please can you say why you gave that answer?

27. What, if anything, could improve the safety of sex workers in the UK?

Privacy and identity protection

28. Do you take any of the following steps to protect your identity online? Please select all that apply.

- Using a pseudonym/working name in all work-related material
- Obscuring or not revealing my face
- Disguising/hiding identifying marks, e.g. tattoos
- Not giving out personal details (e.g. personal phone number(s), home address)
- Not linking my work profile to personal profiles (e.g. on social media)
- Using virtual private network (VPN) to access the Internet
- Using software or apps to protect identity (e.g. BatchPurifier, Tor, Truecaller)
- Using monitoring companies (e.g. Cam Model Protection) to protect personal data
- Other
- None of the above

28.a. If you selected Other, please specify:

29. Do you have any concerns about your privacy online?

- Yes
- No
- Don't know

29.a. If you answered yes, what are your concerns?

30. To the best of your knowledge, has any information you have put online been used without your consent? (e.g. photos or camming performances being uploaded/used without consent, being outed as a sex worker)

- Yes
- No
- Don't know

Use of personal information without consent

31. How was this information used?

32. What steps if any, did you take to address this? (if no steps taken, please write 'none')

Law and regulation

33. Have you had any of the following contact from the police in relation to your current sex work? Please select all that apply.

- Phone contact
- Personal visit
- Raid on premises
- Provision of information on safety in sex work
- Provision of opportunities for online reporting
- Other police activities
- None of the above

33.a. If you selected other police activities, please specify:

34. How do you think any of the following activities should be regulated?

Please don't select more than 1 answer(s) per row.

	Legal and regulated in the same way as any other type of work	Legal but with specific regulation or licensing related to commercial sexual services	Illegal	Don't know
Offering webcam services	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Purchasing webcam services	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Advertising sexual services online	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Selling sexual services in person	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Purchasing sexual services in person	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Involvement of managers, receptionists, landlords in facilitating sexual services	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Involvement of web designers and online adult platforms in facilitating sexual services	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Working in the same premises with other sex workers	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

34.a. Do you have any further comments on regulation of the UK sex industry?

Demographic and basic job information

Below are some questions that we ask to build up a profile of the people who have completed the questionnaire. Please note that none of this information is asked to identify you. This survey is totally anonymous and confidential.

35. Please indicate your age group.

- Under 18 years old
- 18-24 years old
- 25-34 years old
- 35-44 years old
- 45-54 years old
- Age 55 or over

36. How would you describe your gender?

- Female
- Male
- Transgender female to male
- Transgender male to female
- Non-binary
- Intersex
- Prefer not to say
- Other

36.a. If you selected Other, please specify:

37. How would you describe your sexual orientation?

- Lesbian
- Gay
- Straight
- Bi-sexual
- Prefer not to say
- Other

37.a. If you selected Other, please specify:

38. How would you describe your relationship status?

- Single
- Co-habiting
- Married/civil partnership
- Partner don't live with
- Prefer not to say
- Other

38.a. If you selected Other, please specify:

39. Do you have any financial dependants?

- Yes
- No

40. Please choose one option that best describes your ethnic group or background.

- White English/Welsh/Scottish/Northern Irish/British
- White Irish
- White Eastern European
- White Western European
- Any other White background
- Mixed background: White and Black Caribbean
- Mixed background: White and Black African
- Mixed background: White and Asian
- Any other Mixed ethnic background
- Indian
- Pakistani
- Bangladeshi
- Chinese
- Any other Asian/Asian British background
- Black African
- Black Caribbean
- Any other Black/Black British background
- Arab
- Any other ethnic group (please describe)

40.a. If you selected any other ethnic group, please specify:

41. What is your nationality? (e.g. British, Polish, Mexican)

42. Where in the UK do you live?

- North East

- North West
- Yorkshire & Humber
- South East
- South West
- Greater London
- Eastern Region
- West Midlands
- East Midlands
- Wales
- Scotland
- Northern Ireland
- Other

42.a. If you selected Other, please specify:

43. In which part(s) of the UK do you work? Please select all that apply

- North East
- North West
- Yorkshire & Humber
- South East
- South West
- Greater London
- Eastern Region
- West Midlands
- East Midlands
- Wales
- Scotland
- Northern Ireland

44. What is your highest level of qualification?

- Higher/postgraduate degree, vocational level 5 and equivalents
- University/CNAA first degree, vocational level 4 and equivalents
- HNC/HND/diplomas and other higher education below degree level
- A/AS levels, vocational level 3 and equivalents
- GCSE/O Level grade A*-C, vocational level 2 and equivalents
- GCSE or O level below grade C, vocational level 1 and equivalents
- Other qualifications, level unknown (including non-UK qualifications)
- No formal qualifications

45. How old were you when you first started sex working?

46. Do you have any other comments?

Thank You

Thank you for taking the time to fill out this survey. It is so important that the experiences of sex workers are heard and prioritised in law and policy making about sex work. We hope that the results of our research will help influence policy makers in the UK. Our project will be running until September 2018. As we analyse the information gathered during the research and publish findings you will be able to stay up to date by keeping an eye on our website - www.beyond-the-gaze.com - or following us on twitter - @BeyondtheGaze.

If you would like to be entered into the prize draw to win one of three £50 shopping vouchers then please click on this link: <https://leicester.onlinesurveys.ac.uk/btg-survey-prize-draw>. This will take you to a separate survey where you can enter your email address. This ensures that your email address cannot in any way be linked to your answers to the survey to ensure anonymity and confidentiality.

Thank you again for taking the time to complete the survey.

Beyond the Gaze team
