



# SEX WORK & COVID-19

## in Queensland



# PRO ACTIVE:

- SCREENING
- CONTACT/SURFACE CLEANING
- ENHANCED HYGIENE
- WORKSHOPS
- SEEKING RISK REDUCTION

INFO & STRATEGIES



# IMPACTS

We don't all experience it in the same way

## - Loss of income

- No sick leave, holiday pay,
- No safety net, Jobkeeper eligibility

## - Mental well-being

- Isolation
- No end date
- No certainty
- Stigma & discrimination
- Criminalisation



# POLICING & CRIMINALISATION



**CHO direction - non essential businesses to stop work**

**First fines in QLD - massage parlour & workers**

**High levels of policing (sw high priority)**

**Entrapment**

**Policing in public health responses = last resort**

**Not decriminalised = no rights**





# STIGMA & DISCRIMINATION

- **'vectors of disease' hangover**
- **singled out for extra layers of policing & criminalisation plus entrapment**
- **more barriers to accessing support**
- **processes other people/workers/industries use not available to sex workers**
- **already marginalised - compounding impacts**
- **no return to work date**
- **no champions**



# SEX WORKERS ARE READY TO GO BACK TO WORK

- COVID Safe checklist
- sex worker consults
- workshops
- resources & translations

What can you do?