



NATIONAL UGLY MUGS

IMPACT REPORT

OUR MISSION

ENDING VIOLENCE AGAINST SEX WORKERS

OUR VALUES

Compassion

NUM commits to treating our members and staff with care, patience and understanding. We provide non-judgmental support to our members and work together as a team to manage risks, mitigate harm and support victims of crime in the ways that they determine.

Inclusion

NUM respects and is welcoming and inclusive of diversity identities, 'ways of being' and broad experiences, ensuring that we value lives, communities and rights to self-determination.

Contribution

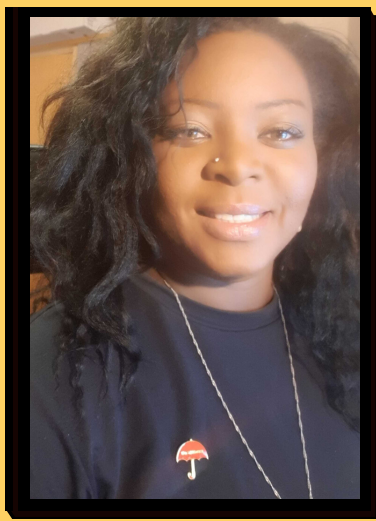
NUM contributes knowledge, skills and expertise towards positive progress in 'ending violence against sex workers' and endeavors to be proactive and innovative in the ways that we serve our members.

Integrity

NUM aims to be honest, transparent and fair in our interactions with our members. We are open to feedback and where possible, we will fill gaps in knowledge and experience in the ways that our members request.

A MESSAGE FROM OUR CEO

Dr. Raven Bowen CEO
National Ugly Mugs



Over the past year, we have been developing infrastructure to position NUM as a national crime prevention and victim support organisation for a diverse population of on- and off-street, and on- and offline sex industry workers. It is critical for NUM to be transparent and held accountable to our core stakeholder groups of sex workers, and to share insights and findings that influence the policy and practices of police services, community services and the state. Sex working adults are entitled to high quality and consistent support services, led and delivered by professionals who are qualified in victim support, as well as subject matter experts who include those with lived experience and scholars. We have been developing core values; organising our workflow; and with investment in digital transformation—creating efficiencies internally with sex workers that are robust and responsive. Prior to the Covid-19 pandemic sex workers experienced discrimination and criminalisation at the hands of those with the power to deny their access to resources and misrepresent their industry. Strategies and interventions are developed largely without the valuable contributions of sex workers. This practice would not be tolerated among any other marginalised population and cannot continue. Exclusionary politics is structural violence! Poverty, insecure income, homelessness, unsafe housing, inequity, reduced access to justice and social protections all have a compounding affects and limit life-chances of sex workers. The current pandemic highlights that those with the least resources and political power in our society carry the greatest burden and are most at risk. Despite the need to protect each other, there is an appetite for continued targeting of sex workers by some, instead of full investment in their survival. But there is hope. There are entities and individuals who refuse to leave sex workers behind. They are advocating for resources, funding charities and sex worker-led groups, donating to hardships funds and doing the seen an unseen work to ensure that sex workers get the what they need to stay safe. This impact report demonstrates the vital role of NUM in ‘ending violence against sex workers.’ During this pandemic, dangerous people continue to victimise sex workers and the distress calls continue to flow in. In the year ahead, we are committed to adapting our services ensure that we are here for sex workers and ready to respond in the ways that they ask us to. -In Solidary



OUR RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT TEAM



The Research and Development (R&D) Team is a group of sex industry experts who work alongside the staff at NUM to improve the service to better meet the needs of sex workers. We represent communities of differing gender and sexual identities, with different incomes, and legal standings. We are diverse team who have experience in adult film, escorting, on-street sex work, brothel work, independent sex work, massage, camming and more.


We like all other industry workers, have lots of skills and knowledge from informal and formal education. We have degrees and other certification, and work experience from sex work, research, education, health services, the United Nations, counselling, third sector services and NASA. Equally, all of our experiences and voices matter!





"I felt being part of the R&D team at NUM was a great opportunity to help the community through 2019 during a time of the political unrest of Brexit aftermath. In 2020 the need for my work as a R& D member increased as sex workers across the face great hardship during COVID-19. Helping the charity stay connected to our community is important to me and I'm glad in is making a difference.



SEX WORK IN THE UK



It is difficult to estimate how many sex workers there are in the UK. Recent studies have suggested that there are between **70,000-110,000** people engaged in sex work, representing all genders, sexualities and modes of working.



From the beginning of the 21st century, online sex work has grown exponentially and is the now the largest sector of the UK sex industry.

To all sex workers, we're here for you

NUM IN NUMBERS

7567^{*}

Total NUM members including
sex workers, organisations and
projects providing services for
sex workers

6193^{*}

Current NUM members who
identify as sex workers,
which is 82%

We have members of all
genders at NUM who work
across the UK in a variety of
sex work sectors.

* 31st December 2019

90%
of our
members
said they felt
safer knowing
NUM exists.*

“

I find they're very supportive
and go above and beyond to
help and make you feel better.
NUM makes me feel safer⁺

”

*2018 NUM member survey +2020 NUM sex worker consultation

UGLYMUGS.ORG

REPORTING AND ALERTING

At NUM we define reports as a first disclosure of victimization towards sex workers whilst at work.

INCIDENT REPORTS 2019



991
Total
Reports

Currently NUM is one of the only spaces collecting crime and harm data specifically in relation to crimes against sex workers. As a result, we have been able to identify the most prevalent types of reported crime committed against sex workers.

Our team of dedicated case workers provided enhanced person-person victim support for **125 sex workers** in 2019, **70 of whom** received in-depth case support.



ALERTS 2019

370,000 SMS Alerts sent

30,000 SMS Per month

up 75% from 2018

**1.17 million SMS
alerts sent since 2012**

POLICE ENGAGEMENT

799 NUM also gained consent to share anonymous reports with police in 2019 that would have otherwise gone unreported.

150 We also had consent to produce full police reports and supported sex workers to make formal statements to the police.



40% members
say they have
avoided a
predator due to
an alert

32% said they
had received a
positive match
using our
number
checking service
thus **avoiding**
contact with
potentially
dangerous
individuals.

A WORD FROM OUR SEX WORKERS

"You don't realize the full weight of the terrorism of the judicial/policing system on SWs in the US until you report an escorting rape in France to @NationalUglyMug and they treat you like a human & ask if you want to file a police report. Holy fuck the shit we live with here."

"Another phone call with @NationalUglyMug who are unfailingly helpful, and have exciting things afoot. Fellow workers, if you haven't signed up to their scheme, I urge you to do so."

"Phoned @NationalUglyMug today and had a lovely catch up about a report I made with one of their beautiful staff members. She had emailed me for an update. They are really the bed rock of sex work. Really are."

"I am such a fan girl of the amazing work done by @NationalUglyMug. Such a great example of a charity built around users' needs ☐☐"

WORKING WITH POLICE AND ORGANISATIONS

975 OF OUR MEMBERS REPRESENT ORGANISATIONS/PROJECTS

These provide front line services to sex workers throughout the UK to improve sex worker safety. Projects can use NUM to make reports, receive and disseminate alerts as well as access our community education programs. We also work together to provide a national mapping of resources and facilitate the co-development of best practice support services for sex workers.

NUM RECEIVED 98 REPORTS FROM POLICE IN 2019

To safeguard sex workers we do not permit police to become members of NUM but all 42 forces can submit reports of harms to sex workers in their areas. We also offer police our specially designed community education program informed and delivered by sex workers along with our staff members.



COMMUNITY EDUCATION AT NUM NUM Knowledge Transfer (KT)

NUM provides community education through Knowledge Translation (KT) sessions, the content of which is informed by sex workers, leading academics and our unique insights.

In 2019, NUM delivered 10 KT sessions to 9 police constabularies across the country sharing our specialist, informed knowledge with over 200 members of the police force across the UK.



THE FUTURE OF COMMUNITY EDUCATION AT NUM

2020 vision and beyond

This year we plan to further develop and launch our community education packages to sex workers, projects/organisations and the police. Building upon insights from previous presentations, we will focus on working through relevant case studies and policy issues that contribute to violence against sex workers.

NUM'S DIGITAL PLATFORM

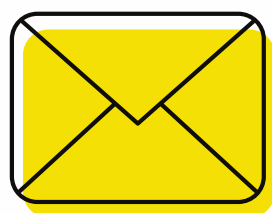
2020 vision and beyond

In 2019 NUM was awarded funding to embark on an exciting three year project to increase our digital capacity. We are now in the process of creating and implementing a new online platform of digital solutions for the UK sex work community. NUM aims to use these solutions to achieve our mandate of ending violence against sex industry workers by reducing/preventing fatalities and victimisation. Throughout this process we are working with the Research and Development (R&D) Team, industry experts and our broader membership so they can lead in the creation, testing and rolling out of these innovative features and services for diverse sex industry workers. This will ensure that NUM digital services are grounded in the safety needs associated with the types of work and ways of working across sex industries. We are currently at stage one of this process and we are looking to go live in December 2020 with our first set of digital solutions.

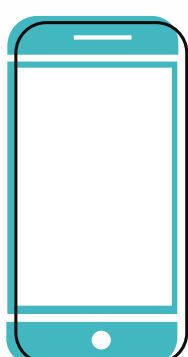
KEEP IN TOUCH



Reach us on Twitter @NationalUglyMugs and @NUM_RAD



Email us admin@uglymugs.org



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