



PROMOTING HEALTH AND DIGNITY
Fighting for social justice and inclusion

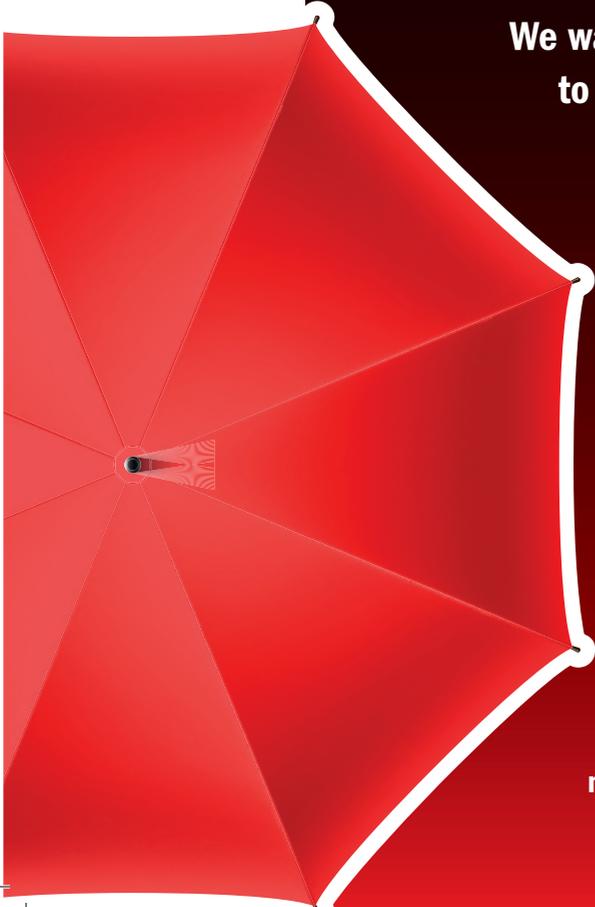
Indoor Sex Workers in Scotland

THE POLICE AND YOUR RIGHTS

**We want all indoor sex workers
to understand their rights if
the police arrive without
warning at their door.**

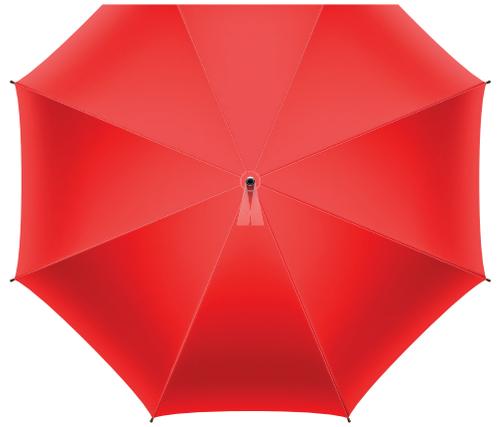
**This document provides
information on your rights
when dealing with the
police in Scotland. If you
tour to other parts of the
UK then be aware that this
information does not apply
when working in England,
Wales or Northern Ireland.**

**This advice applies to
everyone regardless of your
nationality or immigration status.**



NO WARRANT no entry

- If the police arrive on your doorstep unannounced and they do not have a warrant you **do not have to let them in**. The police can only enter premises without a warrant if there is urgency, for example, a life is in danger or if valuable evidence will be destroyed.
- If the police try and argue that they do have a right to enter without a warrant **ask them on what basis** and make a note of this.
- If the police do not have a warrant then you have **the right to close the door on them**.
- The police **are not entitled to repeatedly attend at your address** when you have made it clear that you do not want to speak to them. If this happens to you make a complaint to Police Scotland or contact SCOT-PEP for support.



YOU DO NOT HAVE TO answer their questions

- Unless the police suspect you have committed or witnessed a crime, **you do not have to answer any questions**. Politely refuse.
- If the police suspect you have committed or witnessed a crime, **ask them what crime they suspect you of committing** before answering any of their questions.
- The **only** questions you have to answer if suspected of having committed or witnessed a crime are: your name, address, date and place of birth and nationality. You **do not have to answer any other questions** put to you by the police. If you are a migrant you **do not have to answer any questions about your immigration status** beyond your nationality.



NO RIGHT to film you, photograph you or take fingerprints

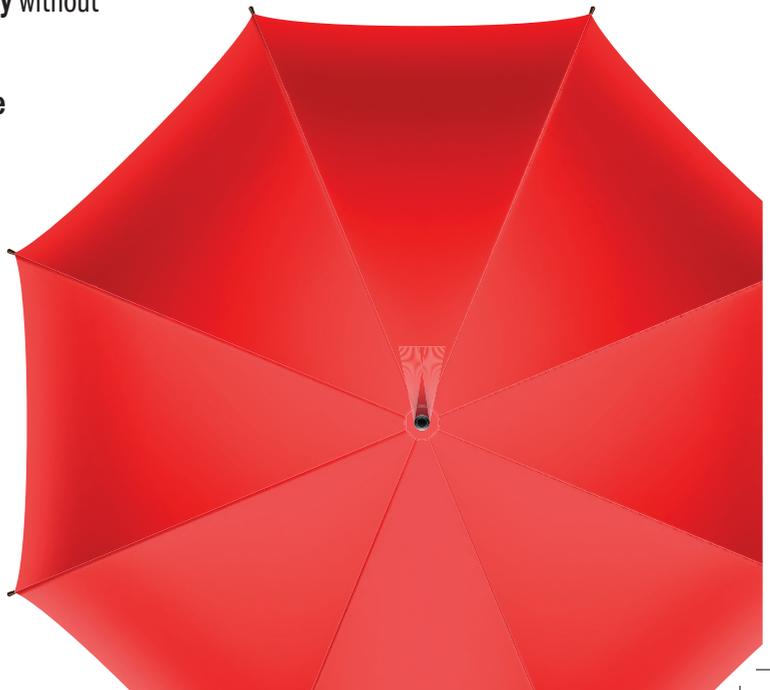
- If the police have not formally detained you then they have **no right to film or photograph you**. If they try and do this **politely refuse**.
- If the police have not formally detained you then they have **no right to take fingerprints from you**. If they try and do this **politely refuse**.

PROTECT your property

- The police **cannot take any items of your property** without a warrant.
- The police **do not have the right to look through your phone** without a warrant. Do not give them your phone.

HOLD THE POLICE to account

- Always **ask the police officers for their names and badge numbers**, they should provide these if asked.
- **You are entitled to film police officers** if they come into your house but you should inform them that you are recording them.
- If you believe that the police hold information about you, for example, your mobile number or address, you can **request details of this information** by doing a subject access request under the Data Protection Act.



RIGHTS on detention

- If the police suspect you of committing a crime then they can detain you. They **must tell you why they are detaining you** and explain your rights. If you are detained you **do not have to answer any questions** except your name, address, date/place of birth and nationality.
- If detained you have the **right to access a solicitor** as soon as you are detained.
- You also have the right to **inform one other person** of your detention.
- You can be detained for a **maximum of 24 hours**. If the police want to detain you any longer then they need permission from a judge.



To find out more about us and what we do, check out our website.

If you'd like some support, or would like to get involved with the work that we do, please contact us.

The office is staffed infrequently, so we prefer to receive emails and phonecalls. Email is checked daily, and voicemail is checked regularly.

SCOT-PEP, The Matrix,
62 Newhaven Road
Edinburgh EH6 5QB
voice@scot-pep.org.uk
(+44) 0131 622 7550

scot-pep.org.uk

