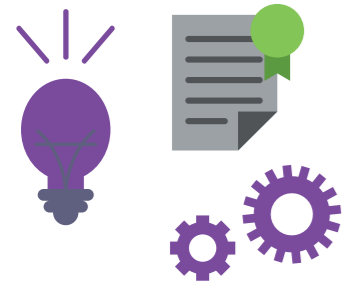


# IASW SOCIAL WORK DURING COVID-19 SURVEY



Social workers have demonstrated **leadership, adaptability and creativity** as they respond to the challenges, crises and needs emerging from the pandemic



**Two out of three** worried about providing a safe, quality social work service, compared to one in three during lockdown



Client vulnerability to abuse, violence and neglect



Need for social work service

Access to essential supports and services



Challenges

Direct, face to face work with clients



Social isolation

Client safety



Stress and anxiety

Access to social support networks & human contact



Parenting demands

Workplace equipment and IT, admin services and supports



Worries

Peer supervision and support



Innovation and creativity



Working from home



Working online



Redeployment



More than half said the biggest challenge was being unable to work face-to-face, or working in a restricted way. The absence of direct work impacted on effective communication and contact with clients



Almost half said new remote work practices presented challenges. Working online with clients is a useful tool but not a substitute for direct face to face work



**456 responses**



Many working **without the resources, equipment and support** needed to do their job



**One in three** worried about the impact of reduced services and public health restrictions on client mental health & wellbeing



**20%** worried about themselves and their families



**25%** had queries about the role and representation of the social work profession. Needs and voices of most vulnerable and those further marginalised by the pandemic largely absent from national planning



**THREE** phases of data collection over **SEVEN** weeks



**Very little improvement in the levels of support and resources** provided by employers



**9%** said employer provided childcare



**7%** social workers redeployed