



returnloads.net

ReturnLoads.net **HGV Driver Shortage** **2016 Driver Survey**



The UK's leading online freight exchange



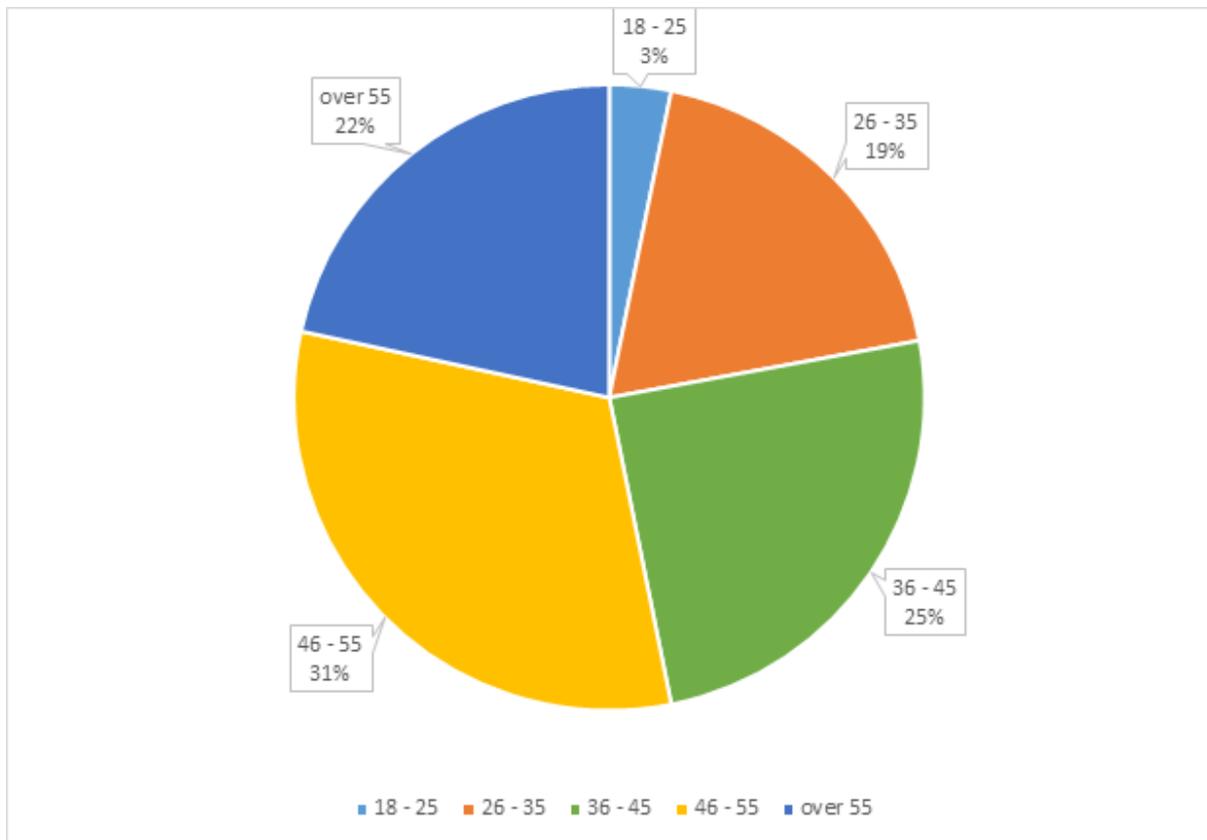
HGV Driver Shortage 2016

In February 2016, **Returnloads.net** carried out an opinion survey inviting HGV drivers to take part. The purpose of the survey was to gauge the drivers opinions about the current HGV driver shortage. Returnloads.net's aim is to establish whether the results of the drivers survey can help operators, industry and government understand the issues they face.

In total, Returnloads.net had 412 responses and this report presents its findings.

Question 1

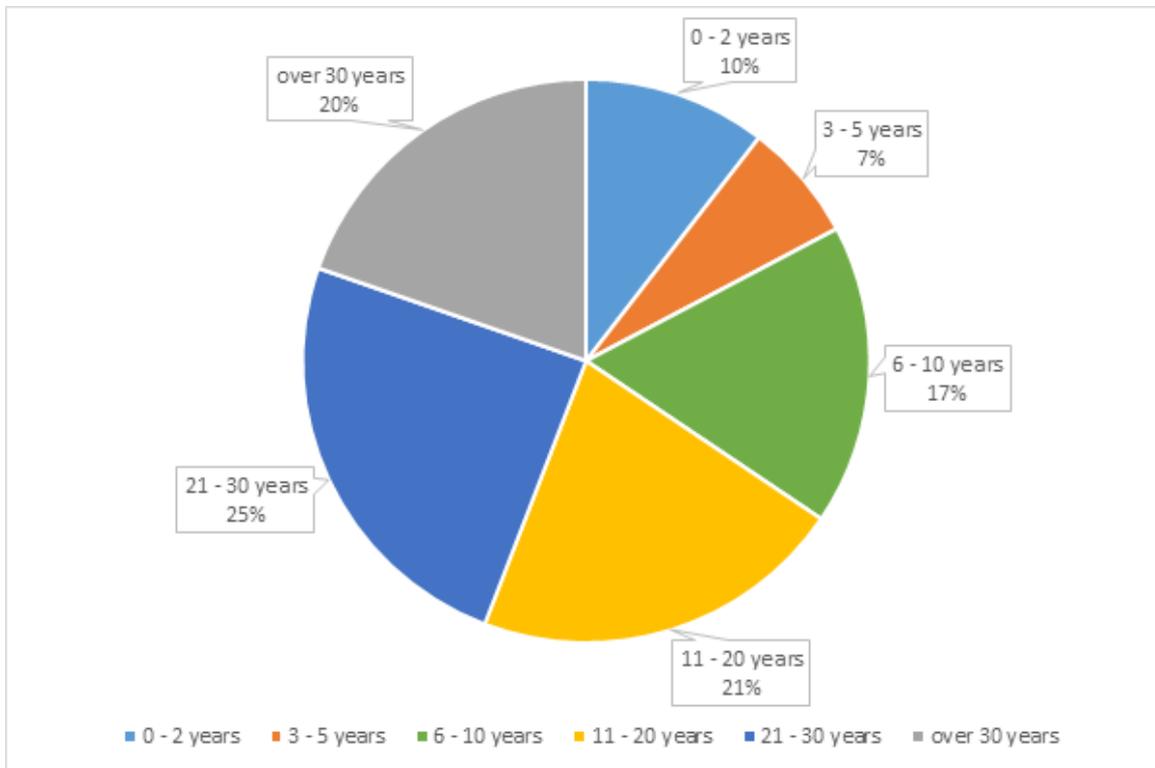
How old are you?





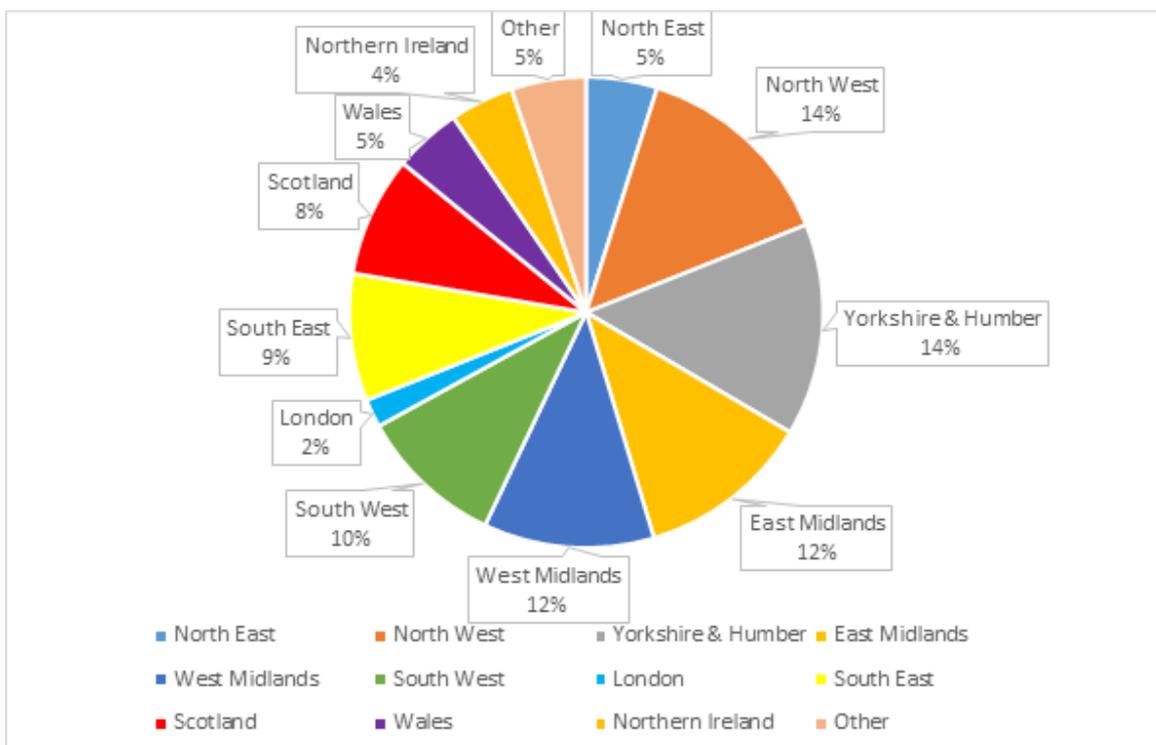
Question 2

How long have you been a professional driver for?



Question 3

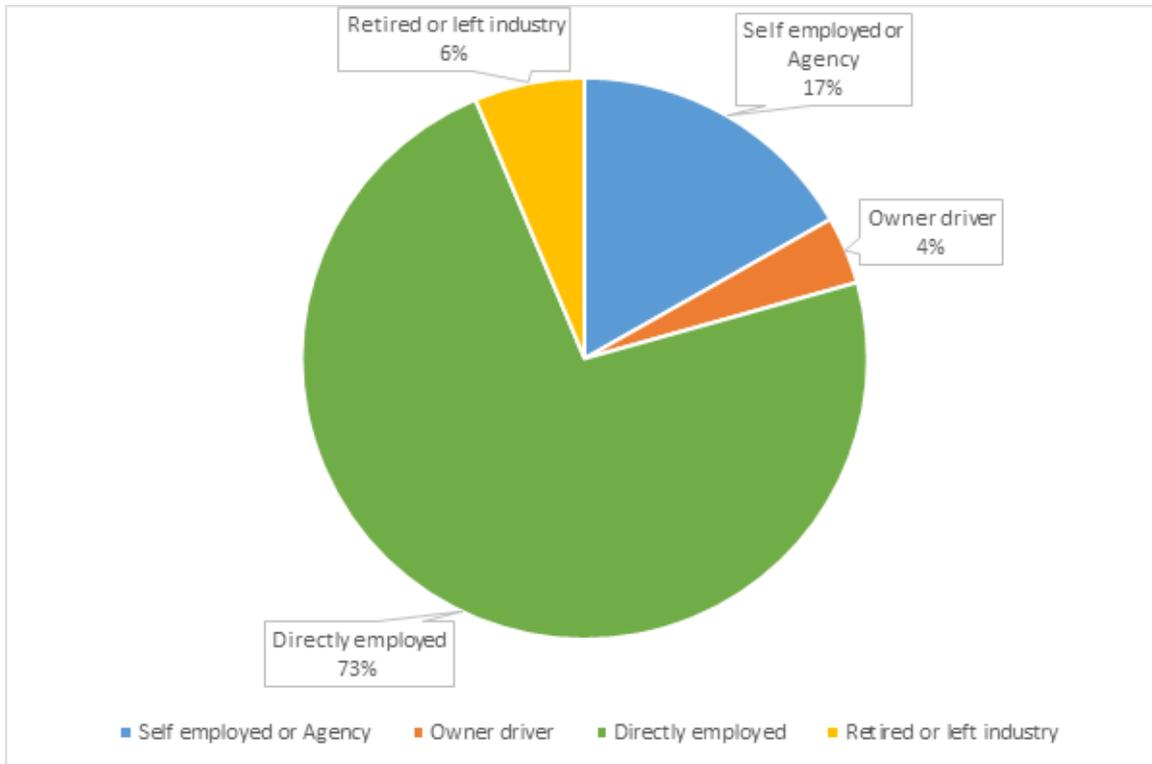
Which geographical region are you based?





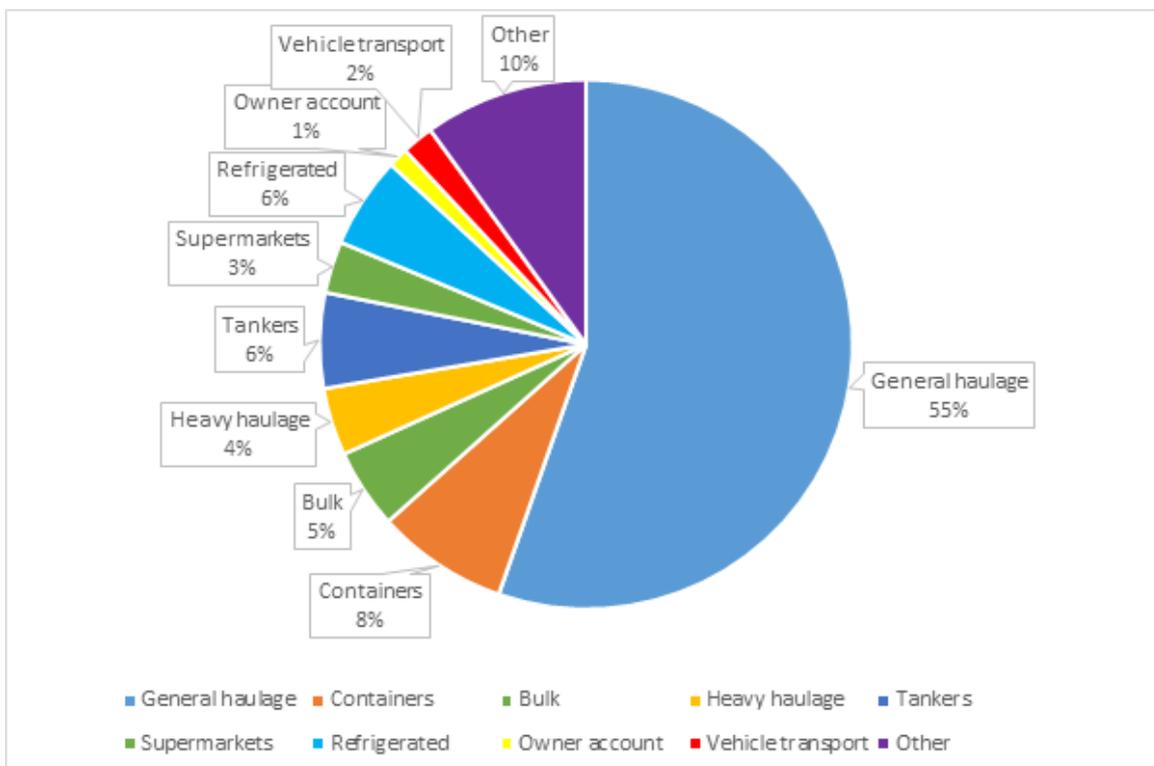
Question 4

What type of HGV driver are you?



Question 5

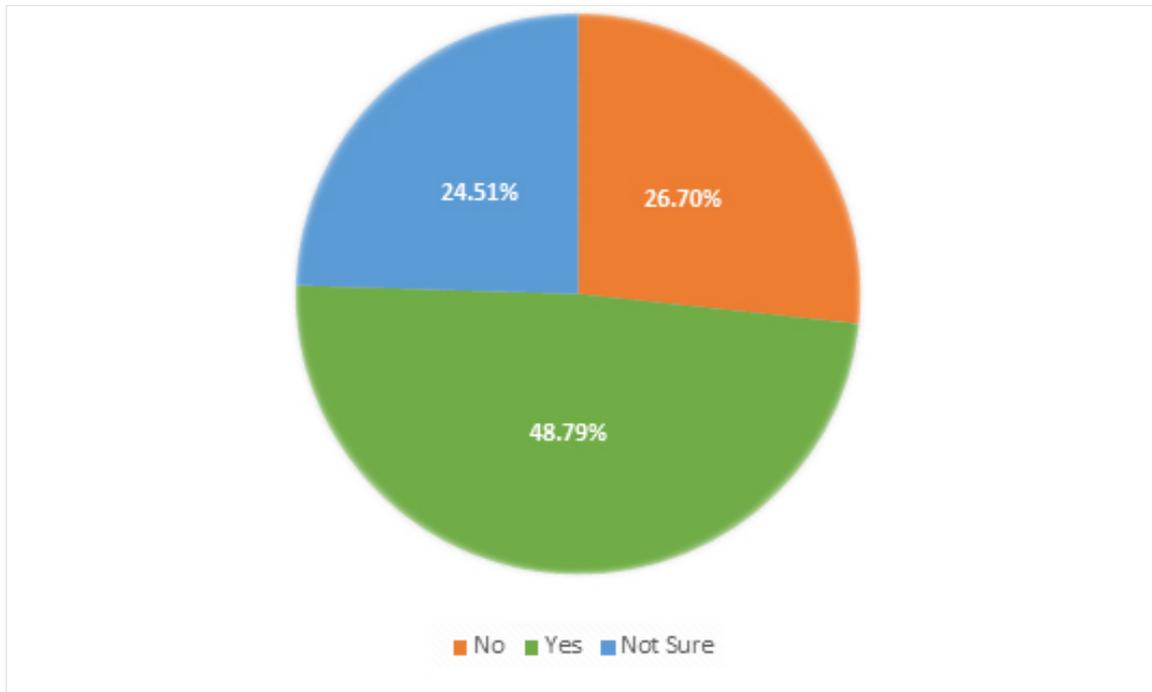
What type of haulage do you work in?





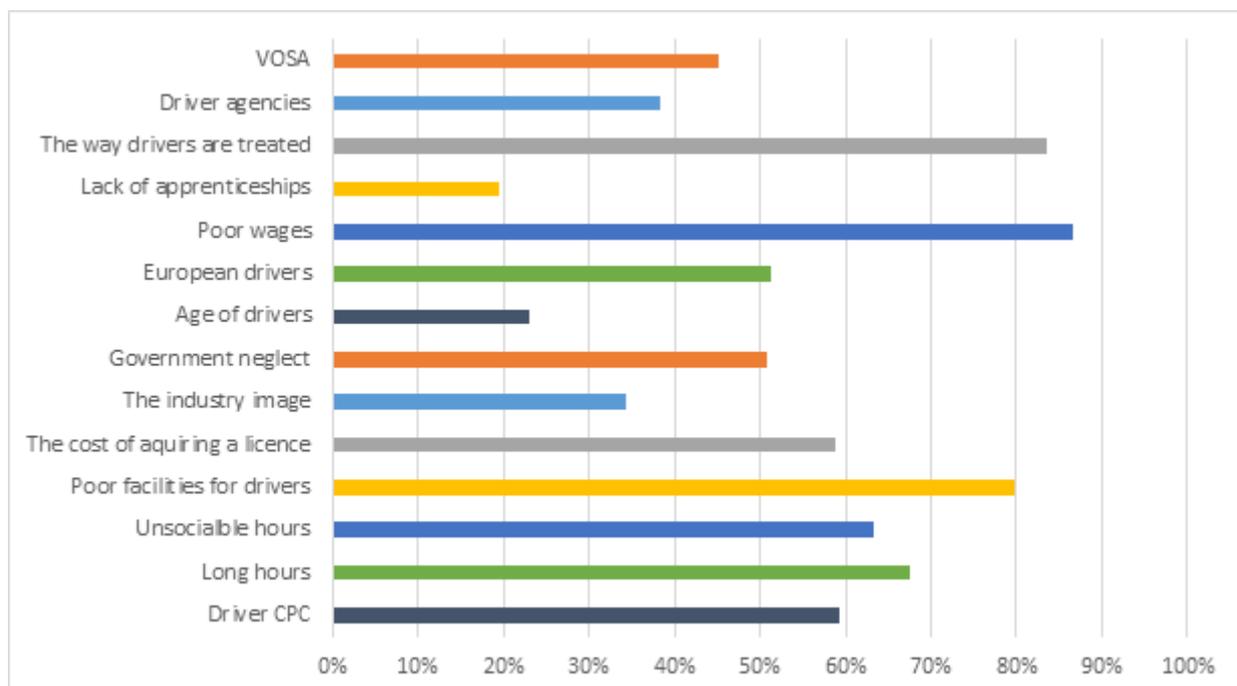
Question 6

Do you think there is currently a HGV driver shortage in the UK?



Question 7

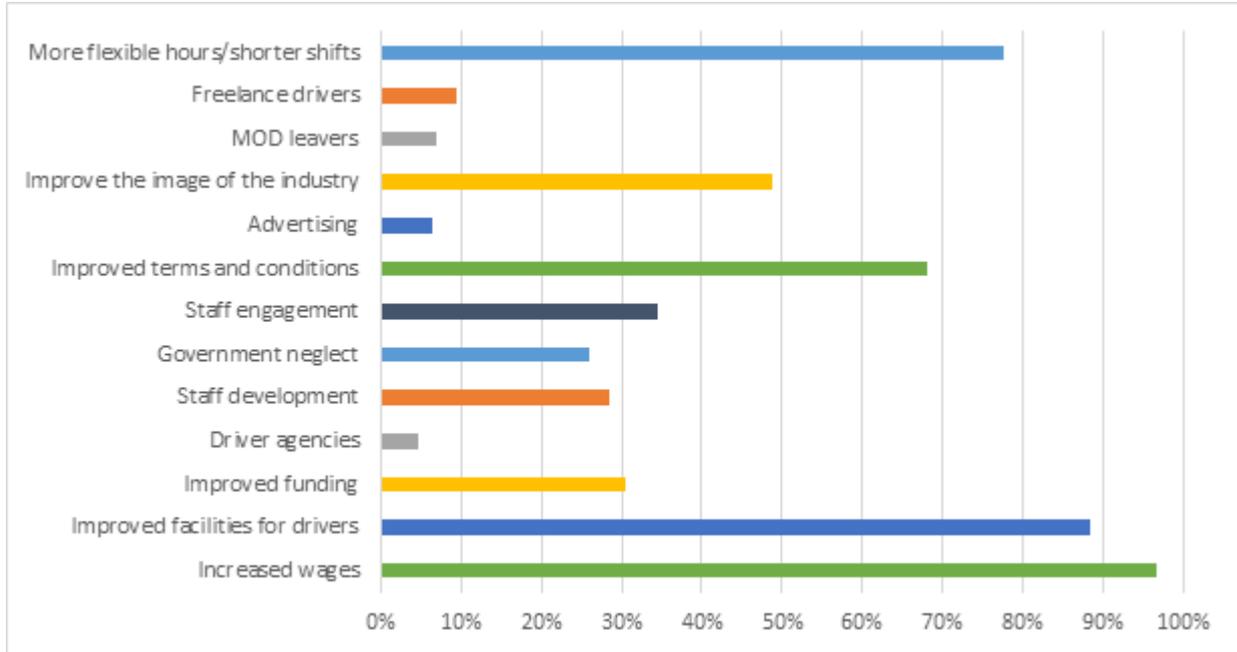
What factors do you think are responsible for the driver shortage, or are deterring people from working as HGV drivers?





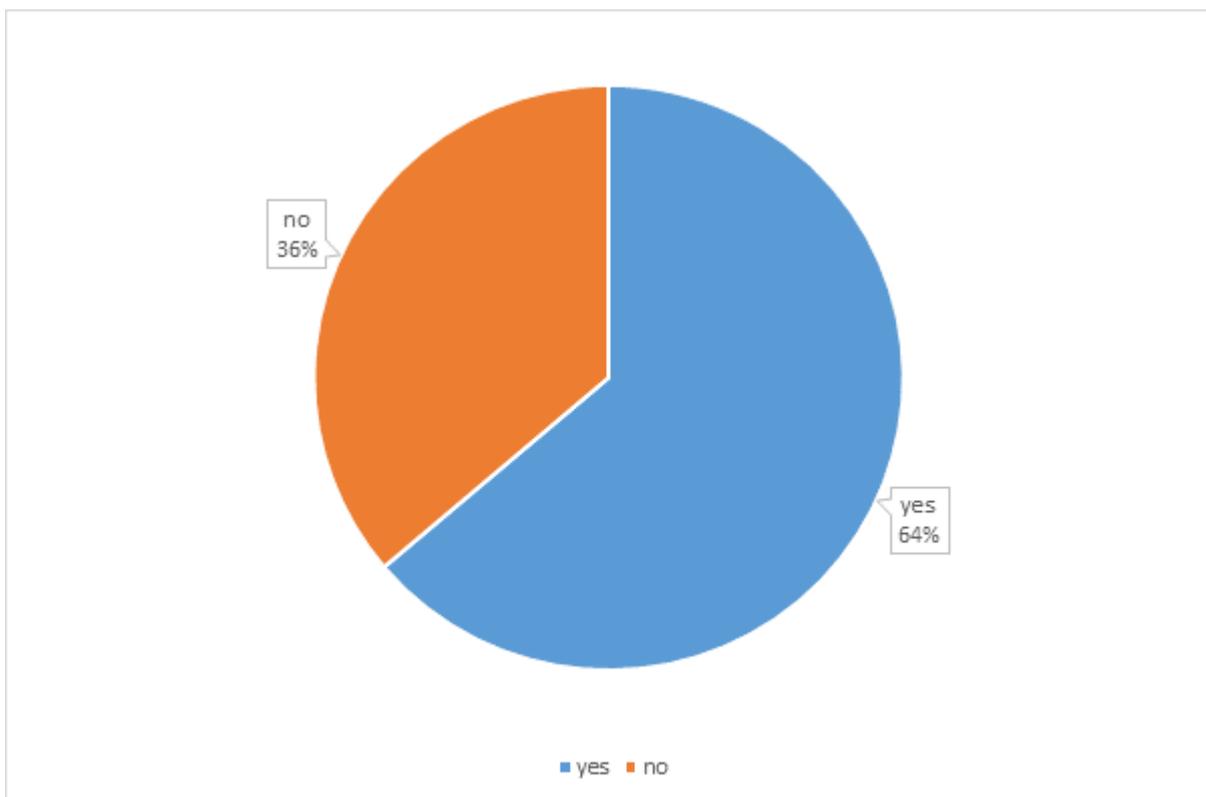
Question 8

What do you think could be done to attract and retain more drivers?



Question 9

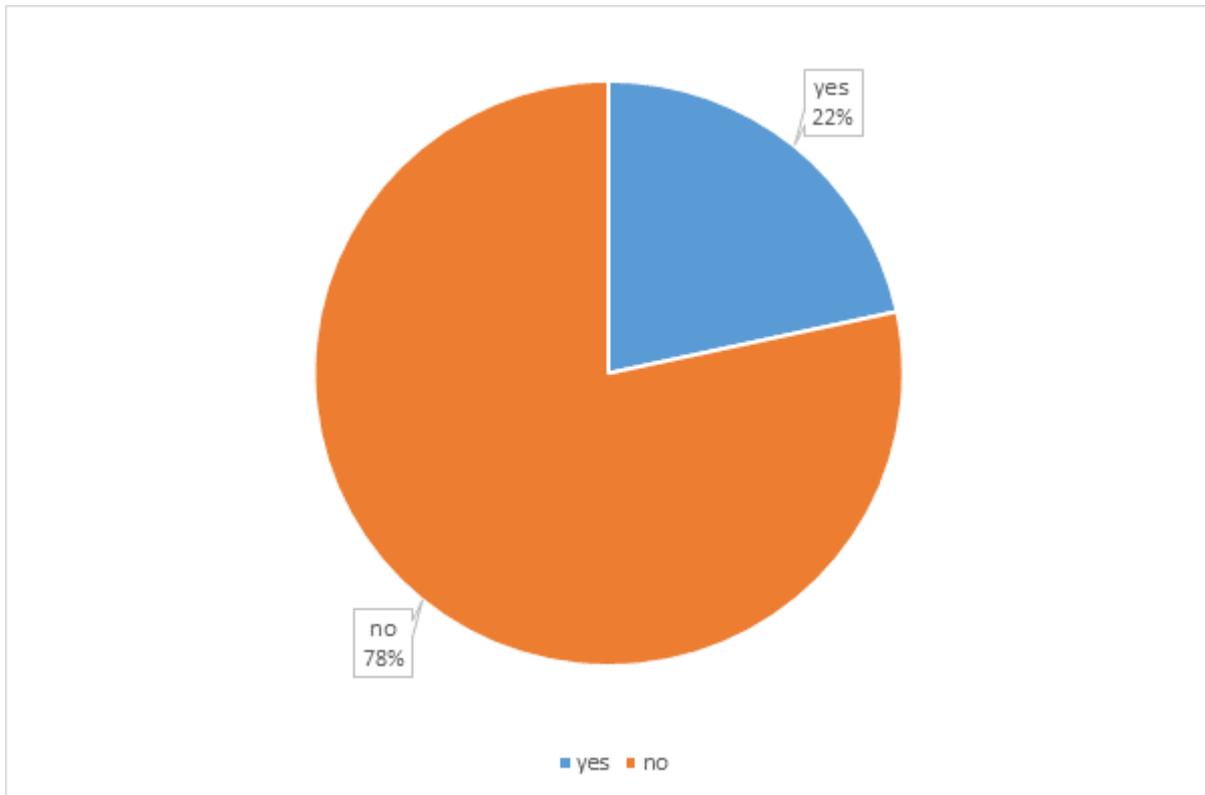
More often than not, would you say the company you drive for treats you well?





Question 10

Would you recommend people to become a professional HGV driver?



Conclusion

This survey has resulted in some interesting findings. In contrast to what is generally perceived as the factors contributing to the driver shortage, the drivers have highlighted the poor wages, poor facilities and the way that they are treated as the top three factors.

Less than half of the drivers surveyed actually think there is currently a driver shortage and nearly all the drivers surveyed felt that the best way to attract new drivers or retain existing drivers is by increasing wages and improving facilities. What is quite worrying is the the 36% percentage of drivers who say they are not treated well by the companies they drive for, that is over a third of drivers who felt this way. Even more worrying is the 78% who would not recommend becoming a professional HGV driver.

The survey results have highlighted issues which, if not addressed, could result in more HGV drivers leaving the industry and less drivers coming in.

Recently published figures from the ONS show that nearly 80,000 qualified HGV drivers with valid driver CPC are choosing not to work as HGV drivers, this coupled with results from this survey shows that perhaps there is not a shortage of drivers but just a shortage of appealing work.