

Best of Both Worlds

After three years working nights as an HGV driver at Transervice Group, Andy Baugh has moved into the office as Transport Supervisor.

Andy Baugh started on the day shift as an HGV driver for West Bromwich-based Transervice Group, before moving to nights. “I loved it,” he says. “I am a ‘show truck’ kind of guy so the night work at the hubs gave me time to clean and polish my truck while I was waiting. It was a real conversation starter, and I met a lot of other truck drivers this way.

“If you sit in your cab on your phone while you’re parked up then of course it is going to feel like a lonely job but, if you get out there, you can meet some great people. You end up becoming very good friends with some of them.”

In terms of work/life balance, he says you can make night-shift work. “My wife works shifts at the hospital so there were sometimes three or four hours a day where we’d see each other and our daughter. But when you think about it, that isn’t that different to any household where both parents work.

“I would 100% recommend night trunking. Everything is pre-planned, so you know exactly where you’re going, and what time you’re going to be home to your family the next morning.

“Also, when you are going from depot to hub, you know you are going to get looked after. There is no stress worrying about finding somewhere to park up with good facilities, as the network hubs are set up to look after the drivers. You know there will be a hot drink and shower if you need them.”

A typical night shift would start around 6pm and involve trunking between Transervice and the TPN Hub in Minworth, about 35 miles away. Andy would make three or four round trips per shift.

He says the pay is good for drivers. “The pay is decent for trunking based on your hours driving versus waiting around. There is more to be made if you live in your truck. But I like a nice work-life balance.”

In his new role as Transport Supervisor, Andy is responsible for transport planning, and for managing the proof of delivery technology. He also still enjoys getting back behind the wheel if Transervice needs an extra driver. “I enjoy the different challenges of the office role and it definitely helps that I had the driving experience as I can still see things from a driver’s perspective,” he says.

“This is a great industry to work in and you could say it’s in my blood. My mum, my dad, my sister and my brother are all drivers in one way or another, so it was natural for me to do it, too.”

