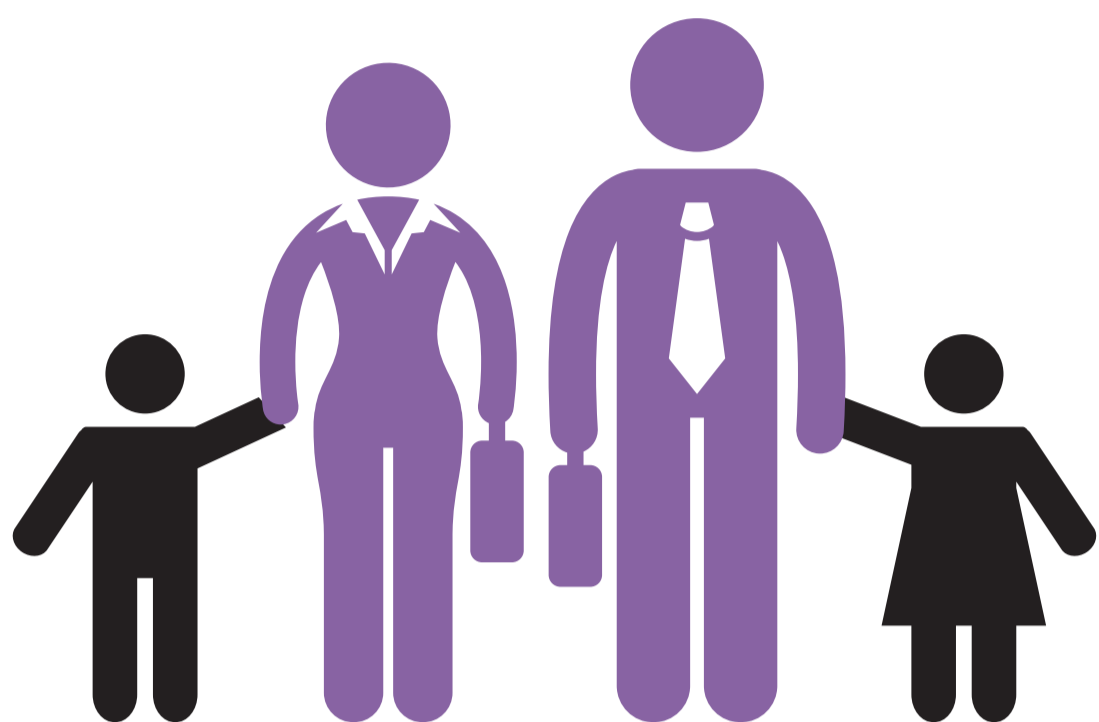


# Childcare is a fundamental business issue

Many businesses regard childcare availability as a key issue and some struggle to retain staff due to the cost of childcare faced by their employees.

The British Chambers of Commerce (BCC), supported by Middlesex University, surveyed more than 1,600 UK businesses in August 2016 to understand their workforce planning priorities and issues

## A third of businesses regard availability of childcare as a key issue in recruiting and retaining staff.

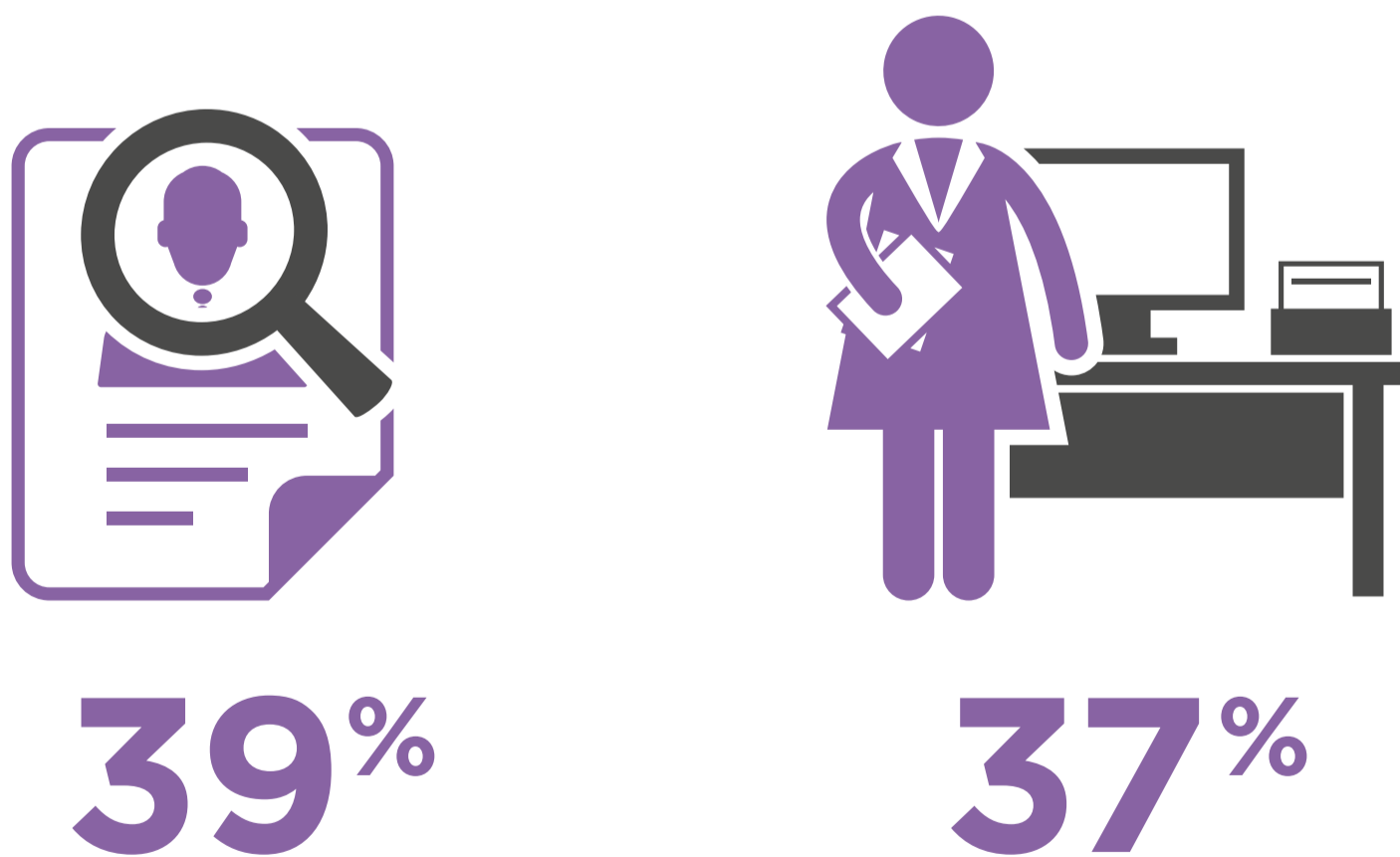


Ministers should consider the costs and benefits of a universal childcare entitlement, which would help more firms retain and promote productive staff, and help working parents progress.

## In the last year, firms have experienced the following issues due to the cost of childcare for their employees:



## Expanded childcare entitlements are viewed positively by many firms. More than a third of businesses expect that government plans to double the amount of free childcare in 2017 will have a positive impact on their recruitment and retention of staff.



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