

Title of Report:	Prompt Payment Statistics
Committee Report Submitted To:	Finance Committee
Date of Meeting:	23 January 2025
For Decision or For Information	For information
To be discussed In Committee YES/NO	No

Linkage to Council Strategy (2021-25)	
Strategic Theme	Cohesive Leadership
Outcome	Council has agreed policies and procedures and decision making is consistent with them.
Lead Officer	Chief Finance Officer

Estimated Timescale for Completion	
Date to be Completed	

Budgetary Considerations	
Cost of Proposal	
Included in Current Year Estimates	YES/NO
Capital/Revenue	Revenue
Code	
Staffing Costs	

Legal Considerations	
Input of Legal Services Required	YES/NO
Legal Opinion Obtained	YES/NO

Screening Requirements	Required for new or revised Policies, Plans, Strategies or Service Delivery Proposals.		
Section 75 Screening	Screening Completed:	Yes/No	Date:
	EQIA Required and Completed:	Yes/No	Date:
Rural Needs Assessment (RNA)	Screening Completed	Yes/No	Date:
	RNA Required and Completed:	Yes/No	Date:
Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA)	Screening Completed:	Yes/No	Date:
	DPIA Required and Completed:	Yes/No	Date:

1.1 Background

Department for communities (DfC) requires Council to record and publish statistics regarding the payment of supplier invoices with specific reference to two distinct measures namely invoices paid within 10 working days and invoices paid within 30 calendar days.

1.2 Detail

These figures are published on a quarterly basis by DfC with Councils required to do likewise. The purpose of the statistics is to encourage Councils to support businesses especially those local and/or small businesses for whom cash flow is of vital importance to their continued survival. In addition, as part of Council's performance improvement plan for this year the payment of our suppliers has been identified as one of the performance improvement objectives with a target of 90% of suppliers being paid within 30 calendar days. The tables below detail Council's performance since April 2022 the latest data being for quarter 3 of 24/25 year, up to and including end of December 2024.

1.3 Analysis

The statistics will be continually monitored to ensure the performance levels are maintained and where possible improved. Council's self-imposed target remains at 90% of invoices being paid within 30 days. During December 95.36% (November 92.41%) of invoices were paid within 30 days, the highest monthly figure Council has ever reported, a greatly improved position when compared to the figures from the previous quarters where 91.06% and 90.13% was recorded, for the entirety of the current year thus far we are showing 91.82%. This does represent a marked improvement in performance from 2023/24 which was 87.32% for the entire year but we can't let performance slip in the remaining months if we are to maintain this level. Staff have identified a small area where we may be under reporting our performance and this is being addressed as we speak, it may lead to a minor improvement in the figures.

Prompt Payment Statistics 2022/2023

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Total
Total No of Invoices	6461	6090	6825	6265	25641
Total amount paid	£ 17,214,458	£ 17,078,164	£ 12,851,511	£ 35,804,964	£ 82,949,097
Number of invoices paid within 10 days	4446	3487	4806	4628	17367
% of invoices paid within 10 days	68.81%	57.26%	70.42%	73.87%	67.73%
Number of invoices paid within 30 days	5872	5267	6252	5829	23220
% of invoices paid within 30 days	90.88%	86.49%	91.60%	93.04%	90.56%
Number of invoices paid outside 30 days	589	823	573	436	2421
% of invoices paid outside 30 days	9.12%	13.51%	8.40%	6.96%	9.44%
No. of Disputed Invoices	33	35	61	20	149
% of disputed invoices	0.51%	0.57%	0.89%	0.32%	0.58%
Average Payment Days	16.24	18.55	15.92	14.28	16.22

Prompt Payment Statistics 2023/2024

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Total
Total No of Invoices	6512	7263	6847	7031	27653
Total amount paid	£ 23,864,802	£ 17,139,245	£ 13,837,183	£ 13,491,210	£ 68,332,440
Number of invoices paid within 10 days	3675	5233	5444	5774	20126
% of invoices paid within 10 days	56.43%	72.05%	79.51%	82.12%	72.78%
Number of invoices paid within 30 days	5398	6232	6215	6301	24146
% of invoices paid within 30 days	82.89%	85.80%	90.77%	89.62%	87.32%
Number of invoices paid outside 30 days	1114	1031	632	730	3507
% of invoices paid outside 30 days	17.11%	14.20%	9.23%	10.38%	12.68%
No. of Disputed Invoices	33	162	35	169	399
% of disputed invoices	0.51%	2.23%	0.51%	2.40%	1.44%
Average Payment Days	18.71	15.59	11.36	13.58	14.64

Prompt Payment Statistics 2024/2025

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Total
Total No of Invoices	6890	7030	7234		21154
Total amount paid	£ 15,645,094	£ 14,616,411	£ 13,040,366		£ 43,301,871
Number of invoices paid within 10 days	5304	5316	5820		16440
% of invoices paid within 10 days	76.98%	75.62%	80.45%		77.72%
Number of invoices paid within 30 days	6274	6336	6813		19423
% of invoices paid within 30 days	91.06%	90.13%	94.18%		91.82%
Number of invoices paid outside 30 days	616	694	421	0	1731
% of invoices paid outside 30 days	8.94%	9.87%	5.82%		8.18%
No. of Disputed Invoices	37	54	40		131
% of disputed invoices	0.54%	0.77%	0.55%		0.62%
Average Payment Days	11.86	11.64	9.84		11.09