

<b>Title of Report:</b>	<b>Prompt Payment Statistics</b>
<b>Committee Report Submitted To:</b>	<b>Finance Committee</b>
<b>Date of Meeting:</b>	<b>10 April 2025</b>
<b>For Decision or For Information</b>	<b>For information</b>
<b>To be discussed In Committee YES/NO</b>	<b>No</b>

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

<b>Estimated Timescale for Completion</b>	
Date to be Completed	

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

<b>Legal Considerations</b>	
Input of Legal Services Required	<b>YES/NO</b>
Legal Opinion Obtained	<b>YES/NO</b>

<b>Screening Requirements</b>	Required for new or revised Policies, Plans, Strategies or Service Delivery Proposals.		
Section 75 Screening	Screening Completed:	<del>Yes</del> /No	Date:
	EQIA Required and Completed:	<del>Yes</del> /No	Date:
Rural Needs Assessment (RNA)	Screening Completed	<del>Yes</del> /No	Date:
	RNA Required and Completed:	<del>Yes</del> /No	Date:
Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA)	Screening Completed:	<del>Yes</del> /No	Date:
	DPIA Required and Completed:	<del>Yes</del> /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 4 of 24/25 year, up to and including end of March 2025.

## **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 March 91.17% (February 90.51%) of invoices were paid within 30 days, for the entirety of the current year we are showing 91.27%. 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 as we move into the new financial year if we are to maintain this level.

<b>Prompt Payment Statistics 2022/2023</b>					
	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
<b>Prompt Payment Statistics 2023/2024</b>					
	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
<b>Prompt Payment Statistics 2024/2025</b>					
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Total
Total No of Invoices	6890	7030	7234	6931	28085
Total amount paid	£ 15,645,094	£ 14,616,411	£ 13,040,366	£ 11,221,971	£ 54,523,842
Number of invoices paid within 10 days	5304	5316	5820	5220	21660
% of invoices paid within 10 days	76.98%	75.62%	80.45%	75.31%	77.12%
Number of invoices paid within 30 days	6274	6336	6813	6208	25631
% of invoices paid within 30 days	91.06%	90.13%	94.18%	89.57%	91.26%
Number of invoices paid outside 30 days	616	694	421	723	2454
% of invoices paid outside 30 days	8.94%	9.87%	5.82%	10.43%	8.74%
No. of Disputed Invoices	37	54	40	42	173
% of disputed invoices	0.54%	0.77%	0.55%	0.61%	0.62%
Average Payment Days	11.86	11.64	9.84	12.60	11.47