

Title of Report:	Prompt Payment Statistics
Committee Report Submitted To:	Finance Committee
Date of Meeting:	16 April 2026
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 2023 the latest data being for quarter 4 of 25/26 year, up to and including end of March 2026.

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 94.10% (February 92.15%) of invoices were paid within 30 days. This is a good improvement on recent months but we remain slightly below our 90% target for the year, finance staff are continuing their efforts to maintain and improve this level of performance.

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	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
Prompt Payment Statistics 2025/2026					
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Total
Total No of Invoices	6819	7136	7446	7442	28843
Total amount paid	£ 15,915,510	£ 18,756,784	£ 15,511,095	£ 14,304,793	£ 64,488,181
Number of invoices paid within 10 days	5003	5254	5807	5735	21799
% of invoices paid within 10 days	73.37%	73.63%	77.99%	77.06%	75.58%
Number of invoices paid within 30 days	6112	6248	6666	6804	25830
% of invoices paid within 30 days	89.63%	87.56%	89.52%	91.43%	89.55%
Number of invoices paid outside 30 days	707	888	780	638	3013
% of invoices paid outside 30 days	10.37%	12.44%	10.48%	8.57%	10.45%
No. of Disputed Invoices	30	30	45	14	119
% of disputed invoices	0.44%	0.42%	0.60%	0.19%	0.41%
Average Payment Days	12.59	14.01	12.84	12.07	12.87