

<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 October 2024</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>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:	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 2021 the latest data being for quarter 2 of 24/25 year, up to and including end of September 2024.

## **1.3 Analysis**

The statistics will be continually to ensure the performance levels and where possible improved. Council's self-imposed target remains at 90% of invoices being paid within 30 days. During September 88.90% (August 88.68%) of invoices were paid within 30 days, a greatly improved starting position when compared to the figures from the previous year where 85.80% was recorded for the entirety of Q2 compared to 90.13% for the current year thus far. This does represent a reduction in performance from Q1 which was 91.06% and we will seek to reverse that reduction in subsequent periods.

<b>Prompt Payment Statistics 2021/2022</b>						
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Total	
Total No of Invoices	5830	6442	7117	6567	25956	
Total amount paid	£ 12,255,753	£ 14,938,664	£ 11,824,362	£ 16,652,683	£ 55,671,462	
Number of invoices paid within 10 days	4139	4113	5240	4331	17823	
% of invoices paid within 10 days	70.99%	63.85%	73.63%	65.95%	68.67%	
Number of invoices paid within 30 days	5447	5886	6613	5893	23839	
% of invoices paid within 30 days	93.43%	91.37%	92.92%	89.74%	91.84%	
Number of invoices paid outside 30 days	383	556	504	674	2117	
% of invoices paid outside 30 days	6.57%	8.63%	7.08%	10.26%	8.16%	
No. of Disputed Invoices	32	26	48	28	134	
% of disputed invoices	0.55%	0.40%	0.67%	0.43%	0.52%	
Average Payment Days	15.80	17.23	15.27	16.81	16.27	
<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			13920	
Total amount paid	£ 15,645,094	£ 14,616,411			£ 30,261,505	
Number of invoices paid within 10 days	5304	5316			10620	
% of invoices paid within 10 days	76.98%	75.62%			76.29%	
Number of invoices paid within 30 days	6274	6336			12610	
% of invoices paid within 30 days	91.06%	90.13%			90.59%	
Number of invoices paid outside 30 days	616	694	0	0	1310	
% of invoices paid outside 30 days	8.94%	9.87%			9.41%	
No. of Disputed Invoices	37	54			91	
% of disputed invoices	0.54%	0.77%			0.65%	
Average Payment Days	11.86	11.64			11.75	