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| Prompt Payment Statistics | 16 January 2018 |
| Corporate, Policy and Resources Committee – For information | |

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| Linkage to Council Strategy (2015-19) | |
| Strategic Theme | Innovation and Transformation |
| Outcome | The Council will continuously examine and introduce ways to provide services in more accessible and efficient ways |
| Lead Officer | Chief Finance Officer |
| Cost: (If applicable) | Performance improvement target |

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 2015 the latest data for quarters 1, 2 and 3 of 2017/18 being up to and including December 2017. I am pleased to report that we are beginning to recover the performance downturn seen in the earlier part of this financial year, this could be attributed to the staff moves now being complete and systems beginning to settle into place and therefore this trend should continue as the year progresses.

1.3 Improvement Actions

Whilst the improved performance in comparison to previous periods is welcome council officers continue to seek improvements to overcome these difficulties and ultimately improve the performance. As previously reported finance staff are continuing with the setting up of electronic systems which will remove the need to have invoices transported around all of our offices for verification and authorisation. It is anticipated that a pilot implementation of this will take place in November with a full roll-out in time for the new financial year, the timescale may seem long however it must be remembered that only one of the four legacy councils used the electronic system that is the basis for what is required therefore this requires and extensive programming, implementation, roll-out and training before it will become fully operational. The electronic system will produce significant improvements in the payment figures

Prompt Payment Statistics 2015/2016

| | Q1 | Q2 | Q3 | Q4 | Total |
|---|-------------|--------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|
| Total No of Invoices | 3667 | 6972 | 5378 | 6406 | 22423 |
| Total amount paid | £ 6,607,314 | £ 12,411,407 | £ 6,898,749 | £ 9,835,553 | £ 35,753,023 |
| Number of invoices paid within 10 days | 1870 | 3145 | 2551 | 2653 | 10219 |
| % of invoices paid within 10 days | 51.00% | 45.11% | 47.43% | 41.41% | 45.57% |
| Number of invoices paid within 30 days | 3218 | 5622 | 4439 | 5124 | 18403 |
| % of invoices paid within 30 days | 87.76% | 80.64% | 82.54% | 79.99% | 82.07% |
| Number of invoices paid outside 30 days | 449 | 1350 | 939 | 1282 | 4020 |
| % of invoices paid outside 30 days | 12.24% | 19.36% | 17.46% | 20.01% | 17.93% |

Prompt Payment Statistics 2016/2017

| | Q1 | Q2 | Q3 | Q4 | Total |
|---|-------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| Total No of Invoices | 4533 | 6610 | 6072 | 8332 | 25547 |
| Total amount paid | £ 6,710,360 | £ 11,233,620 | £ 13,557,966 | £ 16,266,636 | £ 47,768,582 |
| Number of invoices paid within 10 days | 1910 | 2708 | 2792 | 4022 | 11432 |
| % of invoices paid within 10 days | 42.14% | 40.97% | 45.98% | 48.27% | 44.75% |
| Number of invoices paid within 30 days | 3907 | 5386 | 5339 | 6992 | 21624 |
| % of invoices paid within 30 days | 86.19% | 81.48% | 87.93% | 83.92% | 84.64% |
| Number of invoices paid outside 30 days | 626 | 1224 | 733 | 1340 | 3923 |
| % of invoices paid outside 30 days | 13.81% | 18.52% | 12.07% | 16.08% | 15.36% |

Prompt Payment Statistics 2017/2018

| | Q1 | Q2 | Q3 | Q4 | Total |
|---|----------------|-----------------|----------------|---------|-----------------|
| Total No of Invoices | 5204 | 7475 | 6424 | | 19103 |
| Total amount paid | £ 7,361,588 | £ 11,484,968 | £ 9,477,430 | | £ 28,323,986 |
| Number of invoices paid within 10 days | 1332 | 2503 | 2765 | | 6600 |
| % of invoices paid within 10 days | 25.60% | 33.48% | 43.04% | #DIV/0! | 34.55% |
| Number of invoices paid within 30 days | 3943 | 5845 | 5507 | | 15295 |
| % of invoices paid within 30 days | 75.77% | 78.19% | 85.73% | #DIV/0! | 80.07% |
| Number of invoices paid outside 30 days | 1261 | 1630 | 917 | 0 | 3808 |
| % of invoices paid outside 30 days | 24.23% | 21.81% | 14.27% | #DIV/0! | 19.93% |
| No. of Disputed Invoices | 9 | 7 | 2 | | 18 |
| Average Payment Days | 24.78 | 24.47 | 20.43 | #DIV/0! | 23.2 |

* Incomplete period