

Corporate Resources Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Date of Meeting	Thursday, 17 November 2022
Report Subject	Joint Funded Care Packages – Update Report
Cabinet Member	Deputy Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Social Services
Report Author	Chief Officer (Social Services) and Corporate Finance Manager
Type of Report	Operational

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

As discussed in the Corporate Resources Overview and Scrutiny Committee of the 13 October 2022, the process of funding is complex and whilst much work has been done to improve processes and to strengthen the close working relationships with Health Board colleagues, there remain a number of long standing outstanding invoices and a number of high value invoices which need attention.

Members have requested regular, monthly update reports to give assurance that new processes are taking effect, and that outstanding invoices are being processed to ensure an improving position.

RECOMMENDATIONS

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To regularly update Members on the progress being made on the proactive budget management of outstanding invoices raised by the Council for payment by Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board

REPORT DETAILS

1.00	PROGRESS UPDATE
1.01	Regular meetings are being held between Council officers and health board staff to understand each other's internal processes. Flow charts have been created which bring together Council process, health board process and the all Wales CHC Framework process.
1.02	All staff involved in the process, from finance colleagues to nursing and social care professionals have been made aware of the process and the interdependencies. Further information has been shared regarding the impact on either care packages or finance arrangements, if the practice deviates from process.
1.03	A number of meetings continue to be held at operational, strategic and Leader/Chief Executive levels:
	Monthly finance officers meetings
	Bi-montly Senior Manager meetings
	Quarterly Leader/Chief Executive meetings.
	Debt management and outstanding invoices is a standing item on all meeting agendas. These meetings are working well to clear operational bottlenecks and escalate where appropriate.
1.04	Recording of progress on individual cases continues to improve. The Council's CHC Planning and Development Officer ensures all claims are tracked and progress recorded, including areas of delay. Her role is then to unblock issues as they present and to ensure new invoices are raised in accordance with the process to avoid future delays in payment.
1.05	For outstanding invoices relating to Children's care packages, the CHC Planning and Development Officer and the Flintshire finance team have identified and work through a number of cases and addressed the need for outstanding information which has ensured positively affected the outstanding debt position.
1.06	BCUHB are working to a short-term debt pathway, any Flintshire invoices are now paid through a weekly payment run.
1.07	The Flintshire finance team now provide a monthly statement of outstanding invoice up to 60 days.

1.08 Debt Levels

1.09 In improvement in the overall unpaid invoice position of £141,917.51 is reported between 12 October 2022 and 11 November 2022.

One Invoice relating to a child placement for £165,548.86 is 55 days overdue. Work being done xxx

Age of Outstanding CHC Invoices 12/10/2022		Outstanding CHC Invoices 11/11/2022		Movement	
0 -30 days	£	42,257.56	£	9,728.60	£32,528.96
31 - 60 days	£	215,548.86	£	-	£215,548.86
61 -90 days	£	2,442.57	£	167,991.43	(£165,548.86)
91 -180 days	£	10,908.42	£	-	£10,908.42
181 - 365 days	£	146,232.16	£	97,752.03	£48,480.13
1 Year +	£	384,628.68	£	382,388.60	£2,240.08
2 Years +	£	271,632.46	£	271,982.44	(£349.98)
3 Years +	£	119,725.08	£	121,615.18	(£1,890.10)
4 Years +	£	77,649.12	£	76,202.68	£1,446.44
5 Years +	£	13,980.10	£	15,426.54	(£1,446.44)
Total	£	1,285,005.01	£	1,143,087.50	£141,917.51

1.10 The table below gives information of the outstanding unpaid invoice level as a proportion of the invoices raised in the same period.

Period	Total Invoiced	Outstanding	%
	Amount	Invoices	Outstanding
0 – 365 days	£3.432m	£0.275m	8%
1 year +	£3.668m	£0.382m	10%
2 years +	£3.636m	£0.272m	7%
3 years +	£2.546m	£0.122m	5%
4 years +	£0.548m	£0.076m	14%
5 years +	£2.970m	£0.015m	0.5%

1.11 Next Steps

- 1.12 Continue with monthly operational meeting, strategic meetings every two months and escalation pathways through the FCC and BCUHB Strategic Partnership Meeting quarterly.
- 1.13 Emphasis to remain on ensuring all short term invoices are paid. Detailed work to continue to reduce outstanding invoices 1 year and over, concentrating on long standing invoices.

2.00	RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS
2.01	As this report is the provision of financial information only.

3.00	IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND RISK MANAGEMENT
3.01	Debt levels are monitored monthly and an escalation route has been established.

4.00	CONSULTATIONS REQUIRED/CARRIED OUT
4.01	None required at this stage.

5.00	APPENDICES
5.01	None

6.00	LIST OF ACCESSIBLE BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS
6.01	Monthly Budget Monitoring Reports

7.00	CONTACT OFFICER DETAILS
7.01	Contact Officer: Jane Davies – Senior Manager Safeguarding and Commissioning Telephone: 01352 704503 and 01352 702503 E-mail: jane.m.davies@flintshire.gov.uk

8.00	GLOSSARY OF TERMS
8.01	(1) Social Services and Wellbeing (Wales) Act 2014: The Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act came into force on 6 April 2016. The Act provides the legal framework for improving the well-being of people who need care and support, and carers who need support, and for transforming social services in Wales.