

CORPORATE RESOURCES OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Date of Meeting	Thursday, 09 February 2023
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 previously discussed in the Corporate Resources Overview and Scrutiny Committee on the 13th October, 17th November and 15th December 2022, the process of funding joint funded care packages is complex. Processes have been put in place over the past three months to address outstanding invoices and ensure current invoices are raised and paid in a timely manner. Significant reductions in the number of long-standing outstanding invoices have been seen alongside progress identifying and engaging with an independent arbitrator to resolve difficult to close down long-standing debts.

Members have requested an update report to give assurance that the work relating to the payment of outstanding invoices continues and that outstanding debt levels are now within normal operating activity.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1	To update Members on the continued 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 continue between Council officers and health board staff to reduce the number of outstanding invoices and resolve any gaps in information which have prevented payment to date.													
1.02	Processes are now in place to ensure current and future invoices are raised in a timely manner and supported by appropriate information to allow for prompt payment within invoicing terms.													
1.03	Meetings continue to be held at operational, strategic and Leader/Chief Executive level and the management of outstanding invoices is a standing item on all meeting agendas.													
1.04	During work to support arbitration, Council officers and Health Board staff have been able to resolve a further £0.114m of long-standing debt. Arbitration arrangements were put on hold to ensure this work was completed; they have now been re-engaged.													
1.05	Debt Levels													
1.06	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Outstanding CHC Invoices 12/10/2022</th> <th>Outstanding CHC Invoices 11/11/2022</th> <th>Outstanding CHC Invoices 06/12/2022</th> <th>Outstanding CHC Invoices 31/01/2023</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>£ 1,285,005.01</td> <td>£ 1,143,087.50</td> <td>£834,664.00</td> <td>£666,102.57</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>From October 2022 to January 2023 the outstanding CHC Invoice position has improved by 48.16%</p> <p>Of the £0.666m outstanding CHC Invoices as of 31st January 2023:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • £0.078m will have been paid on account by 15th February 2022 • £0.049m are being reconciled by the Council and will be paid within the next few weeks • £0.327m are unresolved and are being discussed at independent arbitration (this is a reduction of £0.114m from December 2022 through continued work of the Council and the Health Board's officers) 					Outstanding CHC Invoices 12/10/2022	Outstanding CHC Invoices 11/11/2022	Outstanding CHC Invoices 06/12/2022	Outstanding CHC Invoices 31/01/2023	Total	£ 1,285,005.01	£ 1,143,087.50	£834,664.00	£666,102.57
	Outstanding CHC Invoices 12/10/2022	Outstanding CHC Invoices 11/11/2022	Outstanding CHC Invoices 06/12/2022	Outstanding CHC Invoices 31/01/2023										
Total	£ 1,285,005.01	£ 1,143,087.50	£834,664.00	£666,102.57										
1.07	The remaining operating debt level of £0.211m is a 15.65% improvement on the December 2022 operating debt level of £0.250m and is an 83.6% improvement on the October 2022 operating debt level of £1.285m.													
1.08	Next Steps													
1.09	Continue with monthly operational meeting, strategic meetings, and escalation pathways through the FCC and BCUHB Strategic meetings.													

1.10	Work by officers of the Council and the Health Board has reduced the number and value of unresolved invoices. Now that this work is complete Arbitration for the remaining £0.327m is being arranged.
------	---

2.00	RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS
-------------	------------------------------

2.01	None 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 a clear 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	None
------	------

7.00	CONTACT OFFICER DETAILS
-------------	--------------------------------

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

8.00	GLOSSARY OF TERMS
-------------	--------------------------

8.01	None
------	------