TRANSFORMING PAYMENT PERFORMANCE

BUILDUK
Leading the Construction Industry

Fair and transparent payment practices are essential for a successful construction industry, and the challenging market in recent years has meant maintaining cashflow throughout the supply chain is more important than ever. Build UK has been benchmarking the largest companies in the sector on their payment performance since 2018, which has proved an essential catalyst for changing the industry culture around payment and resulted in substantial improvement, particularly amongst Build UK members.

The story so far

"No Build UK main contractor members pay bills within 30 days"
July 2018

"Nearly a third of major contractors paying faster than 30 days"
August 2021

"Over two thirds of main contractors now paying in 30 days or less"
January 2024

March 2016
Need for change

With a culture of late payment holding the industry back, Build UK Chief Executive Suzannah Nichol calls on leaders within the sector to change the way they do business.

April 2017
Key legislation introduced

The Reporting on Payment Practices and Performance Regulations come into force, providing a consistent means of comparing payment performance across the largest companies in the sector.

July 2018
Setting the benchmark

Build UK launches its payment performance table, highlighting the average time taken by members to pay invoices, as well as the percentage of invoices paid within terms.

July 2019
Adding a new metric

For the first time, Build UK includes within its payment performance table the percentage of invoices paid within 60 days to reflect the increasing use of this metric within the industry.

July 2020
A comprehensive picture

Build UK's payment performance table is expanded to include non-members, providing a holistic overview of performance across the entire construction supply chain.

January 2023
Members hit 30 days

Build UK's tier one Contractor members are now taking an average of 30 days to pay invoices, proving the transparency provided by the payment performance table is changing industry culture around payment.

August 2025
Reporting on value

In line with new reporting requirements, Build UK updates its payment performance table to show the percentage of invoices paid within 60 days by value as well as number.

DRIVING CHANGE

Build UK's bi-annual publication of the key results submitted under the Reporting on Payment Practices and Performance Regulations provide a consistent picture of payment performance in construction. Since 2018, Build UK's tier one Contractor members have improved significantly across the board.

> "This is a great example of a trade organisation positively influencing payment practices in its sector. This kind of thought leadership drives payment improvements that are so crucial to the survival of small businesses in construction and their ability to grow and thrive."
>
> **Small Business Commissioner**

Average time to pay invoices
Was: 45 days
Now: **29 days**

Invoices paid within agreed terms
Was: 63%
Now: **88%**

Invoices paid within 60 days
Was: 82%
Now: **96%**

View the Build UK payment performance table at www.BuildUK.org

October 2026