



Co-operative Councils

Innovation Network

FINANCE



Social Partnership



Enterprise and
social economy



Maximising
social value

Oxygen Finance working with Rochdale Borough Council

Accelerating payments to suppliers and boosting the local economy

The Priority Account Service is an early payment scheme for businesses who supply goods and services to Rochdale Borough Council. The programme helps businesses get paid quicker, improving their cash flow, and generating additional income for the Council.

David Bottomley, Director of Bottomley's Print Services - a supplier to Rochdale Borough Council – explains how early payment has benefited his business.

What services do you supply to Rochdale Borough Council?

"The team have been working with the Council for many years. We produce print work for their elections department."

How did you find out about the Priority Account Service?

"A year ago, we were asked to tender for the services we provide. The tender process contained information about early payment and the Priority Account Service. It was very easy to join the scheme. We create our invoices in the same manner we always have done. It's a very efficient system."

What does early payment mean to a business like yours?

"Early payment through the Priority Account Service is a massive help to a small company such as ours. It gives us the cash flow we need. It allows us to pay our local suppliers quicker, which keeps money moving through the local economy."

“Typically, we’re paid 20 to 28 days quicker, which means that we haven’t had to run credit lines; it’s kept our company going and allowed us to move forward.”

Would you recommend the scheme to others?

“Definitely. It was very easy to set up. There’s no factoring involved. The only thing it costs you is a small percentage of the total invoice value at the end. And for 20 days quicker - it’s worth every penny!”

How do you feel about the rebate that Rochdale Borough Council receives in return for early payment?

“Obviously, the money that we give back as a rebate is reinvested in the local economy. That’s an important part of our social value. Social value is vital to any business these days. We need to get young people into jobs, we need to care for the environment, and we need to support our local community because that’s where we live.”



David Bottomley, Director, Bottomley’s Print Services

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