

Explanation of variances – pro forma

Name of smaller authority: [REDACTED]

County area (local councils and parish meetings only): [REDACTED]

Insert figures from Section 2 of the AGAR in all **Blue** highlighted boxes

Next, please provide full explanations, including numerical values, for the following that will be flagged in the green boxes where relevant:

• variances of more than 15% between totals for individual boxes (except variances of less than £200);

• variances of £100,000 or more require explanation regardless of the % variation year on year;

• **New from 2025/26 onwards:** variances of £500,000 or more in Box 3 require explanation regardless of the % variation year on year for smaller authorities with income and/or expenditure exceeding £6,500,000

	2024/25 £	2025/26 £	Variance £	Variance %	Explanation Required?	Automatic responses trigger below based on figures input, DO NOT OVERWRITE THESE BOXES	Explanation from smaller authority (must include narrative and supporting figures)
1 Balances Brought Forward	78,641	96,650				Explanation of % variance from PY opening balance not required - Balance brought forward does not agree, query this	
2 Precept or Rates and Levies	24,314	32,338	8,024	33.00%	YES		The precept was increased by £8 024, currently a grant of £16 574 is received from a Solar Farm and this will cease in 2028 so the precept is being increased gradually to cover this shortfall.
3 Total Other Receipts	27,511	19,446	-8,065	29.32%	YES		A vat refund of £6753 was received in 24/25. £1200 less was received in 25/26 for the cemetery than in 2024/25.
4 Staff Costs	9,367	5,863	-3,504	37.41%	YES		Prior to 24/25 the post of clerk had been vacant for a significant period of time. When the Clerk came to post a new accounting system was installed and new policies were put in place. This caused the costs to be high in 24/25 as significant overtime hours were worked. In 25/26 these additional hours have not been needed.
5 Loan Interest/Capital Repayment	0	0	0	0.00%	NO		
6 All Other Payments	20,450	28,144	7,694	37.62%	YES		Grass cutting cost an additional £2680 and miscellaneous play park expenses £4380, play area maintenance an additional £1 800.
7 Balances Carried Forward	100,649	114,427				VARIANCE EXPLANATION NOT REQUIRED	
8 Total Cash and Short Term Investments	96,650	114,427				VARIANCE EXPLANATION NOT REQUIRED	
9 Total Fixed Assets plus Other Long Term Investments and	209,498	209,248	-250	0.12%	NO		
10 Total Borrowings	0	0	0	0.00%	NO		

Rounding errors of up to £2 are tolerable

Variances of £200 or less are tolerable