

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	8,200	5,746				Explanation of % variance from PY opening balance not required - Balance brought forward agrees	
2 Precept or Rates and Levies	6,500	7,750	1,250	19.23%	YES		Precept was increased by £1,250 to improve the general reserves which was below sector guidelines.
3 Total Other Receipts	1,560	1,437	-123	7.88%	NO		
4 Staff Costs	3,822	4,022	200	5.23%	NO		
5 Loan Interest/Capital Repayment	0	0	0	0.00%	NO		
6 All Other Payments	6,692	4,688	-2,004	29.95%	YES		In 2024-25 the Parish Council made a one-off payment of £2,500 to the Parish Hall towards their refurbishment. In 2025-26, £500 more was given in donations than in 2024-25.
7 Balances Carried Forward	5,746	6,223				VARIANCE EXPLANATION NOT REQUIRED	
8 Total Cash and Short Term Investments	5,746	6,223				VARIANCE EXPLANATION NOT REQUIRED	
9 Total Fixed Assets plus Other Long Term Investments and	8,310	8,530	220	2.65%	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