

Explanation of variances – pro forma

Name of smaller authority:
County area (local councils and parish meetings only):

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	19,167	22,406				Explanation of % variance from PY opening balance not required - Balance brought forward does not agree, query this	
2 Precept or Rates and Levies	22,000	26,500	4,500	20.45%	YES		The Parish Council increased the precept to cover expected budget expenditure 2025/26 and build reserves for the play area / community improvement
3 Total Other Receipts	15,222	4,845	-10,377	68.17%	YES		£6500 grant received for Clamber wall. VAT reclaimed 2024/25 £6434, VAT reclaimed 2025/26 £2331 (difference £4103)
4 Staff Costs	6,439	7,056	617	9.58%	NO		
5 Loan Interest/Capital Repayment	0	0	0	0.00%	NO		
6 All Other Payments	27,545	17,404	-10,141	36.82%	YES		The Clamber wall cost £7800, the Council purchased rubberised chippings for the play area £4400
7 Balances Carried Forward	22,405	29,291				VARIANCE EXPLANATION NOT REQUIRED	
8 Total Cash and Short Term Investments	22,406	29,292				VARIANCE EXPLANATION NOT REQUIRED	
9 Total Fixed Assets plus Other Long Term Investments and	50,501	50,501	0	0.00%	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