

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	8,508	7,729				Explanation of % variance from PY opening balance not required - Balance brought forward does not agree, query this	
2 Precept or Rates and Levies	8,460	9,137	677	8.00%	NO		
3 Total Other Receipts	594	1,750	1,156	194.61%	YES		During the 25/26 FY the Council received an anonymous donation of £361.30 towards phone box repairs and a grant of £844.30 from ESCC (50% contribution towards new fingerpost). This total £1205.60 of additional income accounts for large variance seen on last year.
4 Staff Costs	5,023	5,652	629	12.52%	NO		
5 Loan Interest/Capital Repayment	0	0	0	0.00%	NO		
6 All Other Payments	4,811	5,848	1,037	21.55%	YES		The Council replaced a fingerpost during the year at a cost of £1688.60 and repaired another at a cost of £261.60 this additional expenditure accounts for the 21.55% increase in other payments.
7 Balances Carried Forward	7,728	7,116				VARIANCE EXPLANATION NOT REQUIRED	
8 Total Cash and Short Term Investments	7,729	7,116				VARIANCE EXPLANATION NOT REQUIRED	
9 Total Fixed Assets plus Other Long Term Investments and	4,139	5,868	1,729	41.77%	YES		A new finger post acquired during the year (£168860) was added to the asset register at year end. This accounts for the increase in fixed assets.
10 Total Borrowings	0	0	0	0.00%	NO		

Rounding errors of up to £2 are tolerable

Variances of £200 or less are tolerable