

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	35,591	31,521				Explanation of % variance from PY opening balance not required - Balance brought forward agrees	
2 Precept or Rates and Levies	13,580	15,581	2,001	14.73%	NO		
3 Total Other Receipts	1,569	1,319	-250	15.93%	YES	2025: SMPC were awarded a grant for a new n/board = £1,298; interest on reserve account = £231; plus the LCTSS grant = £39. TOTAL £1,569. 2026: £1,148 VAT re-claim; interest on reserve account = £171. TOTAL £1,319.. DIFFERENCE = £250.	
4 Staff Costs	10,066	12,443	2,377	23.61%	YES	£1451 additional hours; £348 in PAYE; £637 in Er's NI =£2,436	
5 Loan Interest/Capital Repayment	0	0	0	0.00%	NO		
6 All Other Payments	9,423	12,344	2,921	31.00%	YES	War Memorial maintenance £1,540; Parish Improvements £984, 2 x years Clerk's provision for BT £905 = £3,429	
7 Balances Carried Forward	31,521	23,634				VARIANCE EXPLANATION NOT REQUIRED	
8 Total Cash and Short Term Investments	35,521	23,634				VARIANCE EXPLANATION NOT REQUIRED	
9 Total Fixed Assets plus Other Long Term Investments and Assets	41,414	41,737	323	0.78%	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