

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	24,192	35,472				Explanation of % variance from PY opening balance not required - Balance brought forward agrees	
2 Precept or Rates and Levies	45,000	60,750	15,750	35.00%	YES		The precept was increased by 35% due to the transfer of two assets from somerset council to the parish council. This was to cover, legal costs £1,800, general maintenance improvements £3321. Also to build up reserves so we have funds if major highways issues have to be funded or any other major issue (eg drainage - we have 2 collapsed drains that will require part funding at some date). Build up funds for the new play equipment in the new recreation field we have acquired in transfer of assets.
3 Total Other Receipts	2,945	2,954	9	0.31%	NO		
4 Staff Costs	17,510	19,868	2,358	13.47%	NO		
5 Loan Interest/Capital Repayment	4,562	2,281	-2,281	50.00%	YES		we have finished paying off the 20 year loan for the village hall with PWLB
6 All Other Payments	14,593	22,477	7,884	54.03%	YES		new services passed down from somerset council - dog and litter bin emptying £2,028, footpath strimming/maintenance £1,306. new post and rail fencing at the main rec £2,090.00 new gov.uk website and gov.uk emails £550, new footpath gate installation £270 2x tree surveys £600, new bench £700, 2 x new trees £300
7 Balances Carried Forward	35,472	54,550				VARIANCE EXPLANATION NOT REQUIRED	
8 Total Cash and Short Term Investments	35,472	54,550				VARIANCE EXPLANATION NOT REQUIRED	
9 Total Fixed Assets plus Other Long Term Investments and	73,743	102,940	29,197	39.59%	YES		asset list has grown due to taking on a second recreation field with dog bins, litter bins, a boles court, benches, and play equipment
10 Total Borrowings	2,231	0	-2,231	100.00%	YES		the loan is completely paid off

Rounding errors of up to £2 are tolerable

Variances of £200 or less are tolerable