

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 | 75,901 | 86,297 | | | | Explanation of % variance from PY opening balance not required - Balance brought forward agrees | |
| 2 Precept or Rates and Levies | 37,000 | 44,750 | 7,750 | 20.95% | YES | | The precept was increased to cover the cost of refurbishing the play area owned by the council, and the reburishment of assets devolved from Somerset Council. |
| 3 Total Other Receipts | 2,870 | 47,664 | 44,794 | 1560.77% | YES | | In 2024/25 receipts were interest £2454 and VAT refund of £416. In 2025/26 receipts were interest £2,327, grants £37,146 and VAT refunds of £8,191. |
| 4 Staff Costs | 10,636 | 12,226 | 1,590 | 14.95% | NO | | |
| 5 Loan Interest/Capital Repayment | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0.00% | NO | | |
| 6 All Other Payments | 18,838 | 62,475 | 43,637 | 231.64% | YES | | Administration costs fell by £1063, however asset maintenance costs rose by £1322. Refurbishment of the play area and the defibrillators increased capital spending by £33050 and an increase of £7846 in VAT paid. Grants awarded increased by £2481. |
| 7 Balances Carried Forward | 86,297 | 104,010 | | | | VARIANCE EXPLANATION NOT REQUIRED | |
| 8 Total Cash and Short Term Investments | 86,297 | 104,010 | | | | VARIANCE EXPLANATION NOT REQUIRED | |
| 9 Total Fixed Assets plus Other Long Term Investments and | 40,730 | 64,271 | 23,541 | 57.80% | YES | | Play equipment valued at £2,850 was disposed of and replaced by new equipment valued at £24,192. A Speed Indicator Device was purchased for £2,040. A defibrillator cabinet valued at £624 was disposed of and a replacement purchased for £527. A noticeboard valued at £200 was disposed of and a replacement purchased for £456. |
| 10 Total Borrowings | | | 0 | 0.00% | NO | | |

Rounding errors of up to £2 are tolerable

Variances of £200 or less are tolerable