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	40,948	46,314				Explanation of % variance from PY opening balance not required - Balance brought forward agrees	
2 Precept or Rates and Levies	18,000	19,000	1,000	5.56%	NO		
3 Total Other Receipts	1,899	1,098	-801	42.18%	YES		In 2024/25 the Parish Council received a VAT refund of £1,228 compared to £344.86 in 2025/26.
4 Staff Costs	3,677	5,087	1,410	38.35%	YES		The Clerk's number of hours was reviewed in line with Local Government Services Pay Agreement 2024. The Parish Council agreed to increase the number of hours and agreed to backdate pay.
5 Loan Interest/Capital Repayment	0	0	0	0.00%	NO		
6 All Other Payments	10,856	5,899	-4,957	45.66%	YES		Expenditure was down in 2025/26 compared to 2024/25. In 2024/25, the PC agreed a grant of £4k to support the Community Pub and purchased a new Village Hall Defibrillator (£860). Reclaimed VAT payments as a result of low expenditure were also lower.
7 Balances Carried Forward	46,314	55,426				VARIANCE EXPLANATION NOT REQUIRED	
8 Total Cash and Short Term Investments	46,314	55,426				VARIANCE EXPLANATION NOT REQUIRED	
9 Total Fixed Assets plus Other Long Term Investments and	21,885	21,855	-30	0.14%	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