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	50,380	54,486				Explanation of % variance from PY opening balance not required - Balance brought forward does not agree, query this	
2 Precept or Rates and Levies	22,890	18,883	-4,007	17.51%	YES	The Precept was raised for a specific reason in 2024/25 to try and purchase a parcel of land for the community. Council agreed that the Precept would be reduced to its previous level, plus any agreed %age increase, should it not be successful in its bid to purchase the land. As this was the case, the Precept was reduced.	
3 Total Other Receipts	22,253	12,581	-9,672	43.46%	YES	Grants and donations received in 2024/25 towards repairs of the play area totalling £6,350. Plus a further grant in 2024/25 of £1,855 for flood resilience items. Total of £8,205	
4 Staff Costs	4,790	4,933	143	2.99%	NO		
5 Loan Interest/Capital Repayment	3,394	3,394	0	0.00%	NO		
6 All Other Payments	32,852	29,861	-2,991	9.10%	NO		
7 Balances Carried Forward	54,487	47,762				VARIANCE EXPLANATION NOT REQUIRED	
8 Total Cash and Short Term Investments	54,486	47,761				VARIANCE EXPLANATION NOT REQUIRED	
9 Total Fixed Assets plus Other Long Term Investments and	629,605	637,427	7,822	1.24%	NO		
10 Total Borrowings	34,776	32,957	-1,819	5.23%	NO		

Rounding errors of up to £2 are tolerable

Variances of £200 or less are tolerable