

## Explanation of variances 2023/24 – pro forma

Name of smaller authority:

Insert figures from Section 2 of the AGAR in all [Blue](#) highlighted boxes

Now, 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 £500);
- variances of more than £100,000 must be explained even where this constitutes less than 15%;

Please ensure variance explanations are quantified to reduce the variance excluding stated items below the 15% / £500 / £100,000 threshold

	2024	2023	Variance £	Variance %	Explanation Required?		DO NOT OVERWRITE THE BOXES HIGHLIGHTED IN RED/GREEN	Explanation (must include narrative and supporting figures)
	£	£			Is > 15%	Is > £100,000		
1 Balances Brought Forward	57,343	44,570						Explanation of % variance from PY opening balance not required - Balance brought forward agrees
2 Precept or Rates and Levies	18,859	14,980	3,879	25.89%	YES	NO		See sheet: 2 - Precept
3 Total Other Receipts	7,608	20,000	-12,392	61.96%	YES	NO		See sheet: 3 - Total other receipts
4 Staff Costs	11,225	10,099	1,126	11.15%	NO	NO		
5 Loan Interest/Capital Repayment	0	0	0	0.00%	NO	NO		
6 All Other Payments	43,678	12,108	31,570	260.74%	YES	NO		See sheet: 6 - All other payments
7 Balances Carried Forward	28,907	57,343	-28,436	49.59%	YES	NO		See sheet: 7 - Balances brought forward
8 Total Cash and Short Term Investments	28,907	57,343	-28,436	49.59%	YES	NO		See sheet: 8 - Total cash and s t investments
9 Total Fixed Assets plus Other Long Term Investments and Assets	50,108	31,332	18,776	59.93%	YES	NO		New picnic tables, £590, added to asset register. New toddler multiplay unit, £3,824, added to asset register. New trim trail, £7359, added to asset register. Historic items, £3, added to asset register. Toddler carousel, £3000, removed from asset register
10 Total Borrowings	0	0	0	0.00%	NO	NO		

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3 - Total Other Receipts variances

2022/23	2023/24	Item	Explanation
£14,980.00	£18,859.00	Grants	Precept increased by council following approval of the budget, plus election costs added by WODC

14,980      18,859

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3 - Total Other Receipts variances

2022/23	2023/24	Item	Explanation
£750.00	£0.00	Grants	2022/23 - £750 from Diplock Trust to purchase 2 new picnic benches for the playground. No grants received in 2023/24
£16,000.00	£550.00	Donations	2022/23 - Donations, £16,000, received for the phase 2 of the playground refurbishment project. 2023/24 - Donation, £500, received for tree works. Donation, £50, received for playground refurbishment project
£293.00	£388.00	Allotment rents	2022/23 £293 allotment rent received. Allotment rent increased in 2023/24 - £388 received
£2,956.86	£6,669.86	VAT repayment	More VAT in 2023/24 reclaim period than in 2022/23 reclaim period, so larger repayment received

£19,999.86    £7,607.86  
 20,000        7,608

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6 - All other payments

2022/23	2023/24	Item	Explanation
£66.50	£148.21	Stationery, consumables, printing	Printing increased from £38.70 in 2022/23 to £47.80 in 2023/24 due to reissue of allotment tenancy agreements. Stationery increased from £6.10 in 2022/23 to £50.81 in 2023/24 due to purchase of storage boxes. Postage increased from £21.70 in 2022/23 to £49.60 in 2023/24 due to increase in postage cost and increase in postage quantity.
£130.65	£147.32	Administration software	Increase due to change of cost of Bitdefender software
£90.00	£90.00	Working from home allowances	No change
£0.00	£390.00	Payroll	External payroll provider contracted in 2023/24
£368.68	£447.23	Insurance	Increase in insurance cost from 2022/23 to 2023/24
£285.00	£262.50	Hall hire	Decrease in number of meetings in 2023/24
£54.40	£41.56	Mileage	Decrease in miles in 2023/24
£1,099.00	£130.00	Website and email	New website purchased in 2022/23, £999. Domain renewal cost increased from £30 in 2022/23 to £60 in 2023/24
£40.00	£40.00	ICO registration	No change
£190.00	£410.00	Audit fees	Internal audit cost increased from £190 in 2022/23 to £200 in 2023/24. Council subject to external audit in 2023/24, cost £210
£63.48	£1,526.35	Election costs	2022/23 - non contested ordinary election, 2023/24 - contested election to fill vacancies following resignations
£328.75	£377.50	Training	Conferences cost increased from £178.75 in 2022/23 to £187.50 in 2023/24. Training cost increased from £150 in 2022/23 to £190 in 2023/24

£370.37	£348.65	Memberships	SLCC membership increased from £71.93 in 2022/23 to £85.81 in 2023/24. OALC membership increased from £156.94 in 2022/23 to £162.84 in 2023/24. National Allotment Society membership, £50.50 purchased in 2022/23, not renewed in 2023/24. CPRE membership increased from £36 in 2022/23 to £45 in 2023/24. CFO membership remained the same.
£105.00	£106.50	Playground inspection	Increase in charge for playground inspection in 2023/24
£117.00	£470.50	Playground grass cutting	Increase in cost of grass cutting in 2023/24, and increase in cuts required due to wetter summer
£244.03	£29,814.00	Playground equipment repairs/replacements	New toddler seats and materials purchased in 2022/23. 2023-24 - New toddler multiplay and trim trail, £27124, purchased; groundworks/clearance for new equipment, £1340; new picnic benches, £590, equipment repairs, £760
£1,067.49	£1,785.24	Playground maintenance	2022/23 - play bark, £1044.20, and maintenance materials, £23.29 purchased. 2023/24 - tree survey and work, £1100; ground works, £250; £435.24 for bin emptying.
£3,142.00	£74.65	Parish maintenance	2022/23 - weed control, £594.80; bus shelter repair, £618; trough maintenance, £1929.20. 2023/24 - SID clips, £14.70; defibrillator pads, £59.95
£200.00	£200.00	Allotment rent	No change in rental charge
£0.00	£72.00	Allotment maintenance	2023/24 - water supply quotation
£256.94	£0.00	Grants and donations	No grants and donations given in 2023/24
£6.00	£5.00	Lease and legal	2022/23 - land registry record purchased, £6. 2023/24 - Sports field lease statutory declaration, £5
£2,112.09	£0.00	Traffic control	Speed indication device purchased in 2022/23. No items purchased in 2023/24
£81.40	£102.40	Bank charges	Increase charges in 2023/24 as more cheques written

£1,689.52    £6,688.64

£12,108.30    £43,678.25

12,108        43,678

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7 - Balances carried forward

2022/23	2023/24	Explanation
£57,343	£28,907	Opening balance in 2023/24, £57,343, higher than in 2022/23, £44,570. Precept in 2023/24, £18,859, higher than in 2022/23, £14,980. Total other receipts in 2023/24, £7,608, lower than in 2022/23, £20,000. Staff costs in 2023/24, £11,225, higher than in 2022/23, £10,099. All other payments in 2023/24, £43,678, higher than in 2022/23, £12,108. Therefore balance carried forward lower in 2023/24 than in 2022/23.

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8 - Total cash and short term investments

2022/23	2023/24	Explanation
£57,343	£28,907	Opening balance in 2023/24, £57,343, higher than in 2022/23, £44,570. Precept in 2023/24, £18,859, higher than in 2022/23, £14,980. Total other receipts in 2023/24, £7,608, lower than in 2022/23, £20,000. Staff costs in 2023/24, £11,225, higher than in 2022/23, £10,099. All other payments in 2023/24, £43,678, higher than in 2022/23, £12,108. Therefore balance carried forward lower in 2023/24 than in 2022/23.