

Explanation of variances – pro forma

Name of smaller authority:

Merton Parish Council

County area (local councils and)

Torridge, Devon

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);

• **New from 2020/21 onwards:** variances of £100,000 or more require explanation regardless of the % variation year on year;

	2022/23 £	2023/24 £	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	18,429	23,821				Explanation of % variance from PY opening balance not required - Balance brought forward agrees	
2 Precept or Rates and Levies	13,420	12,220	-1,200	8.94%	NO		
3 Total Other Receipts	741	433	-308	41.57%	YES		In 2022/23 there was a VAT reclaim of £310.00
4 Staff Costs	3,108	2,516	-592	19.05%	YES		Staff costs were lower in 2023-24 as due to staff illness payments were not made until after the financial year end.
5 Loan Interest/Capital Repayment	0	0	0	0.00%	NO		
6 All Other Payments	5,661	3,444	-2,217	39.16%	YES		In 2022/23 £1668.19 was spent on a new defibrillator and £700 towards Parish Celebrations
7 Balances Carried Forward	23,821	30,514				VARIANCE EXPLANATION NOT REQUIRED	
8 Total Cash and Short Term Investments	23,822	30,516				VARIANCE EXPLANATION NOT REQUIRED	
9 Total Fixed Assets plus Other Long Term Investments and	71,042	71,042	0	0.00%	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

BOX 10 VARIANCE EXPLANATION NOT REQUIRED IF CHANGE CAN BE EXPLAINED BY BOX 5 (CAPITAL PLUS INTEREST PAYMENT)