

## 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	173,768	122,373				Explanation of % variance from PY opening balance not required - Balance brought forward agrees	There was an admin error from the previous year, it should have been inputted as £122,373 not £122,372. This has now been reinstated
2 Precept or Rates and Levies	100,109	100,797	688	0.69%	NO		
3 Total Other Receipts	19,077	103,927	84,850	444.78%	YES		There was a payment of £92,164.40 from the legacy trust fund for previous years agreed purchases. The payment contributes to the following payments already paid by Preesall Council. £1,075.00 for a towable water bowser, £44,582.40 for 2 cemetery shelters with emblem logos and 2 benches, £7,290.00 for a wheelchair access telescope, £3,795.00 for a heritage telescope, £42,852.40 for the purchase of land and legal fees, totalling £92,164.40
4 Staff Costs	44,047	51,425	7,378	16.75%	YES		An increase of £3,914.49 has been paid this financial year, during the handover period of the retiring clerk and the newly appointed clerk. In 24/25 £7,564.94 was paid in NI and Tax. In 25/26 £11,743.04 was paid in NI and Tax giving an increase of £4,178.10 in the 25/26 financial year.
5 Loan Interest/Capital Repayment	0	0	0	0.00%	NO		
6 All Other Payments	126,535	129,630	3,095	2.45%	NO		
7 Balances Carried Forward	122,373	146,042				VARIANCE EXPLANATION NOT REQUIRED	
8 Total Cash and Short Term Investments	122,373	146,042				VARIANCE EXPLANATION NOT REQUIRED	There was an admin error from the previous year, it should have been inputted as £122,373 not £122,372. This has now been reinstated
9 Total Fixed Assets plus Other Long Term Investments and Assets	190,886	246,600	55,714	29.19%	YES		The value for 2024/25 has changed from £189,176 to £190,886 as stated within the Practitioners Guide para 2.28 where an authority has changed its method of asset valuation it will need to reinstate the prior years figures. The authority has now changed its asset register from a current price value to an original cost (purchase price). In the civic year 2025/26 a sum of £447.95 was disposed from the asset register. In 25/26 a total sum of £56,161.00 was added to the asset register; broken down = community assets totalling £15,771.00, civic regalia totalling £390.00 and a garage storage unit costing £40,000.00. To summarise the reinstated 24/25 figure of £190,886.45 minus £447.95 deletions plus £56,161.00 additions in 2025/26 civic year equals a £55,713.05 variance.
10 Total Borrowings	0	0	0	0.00%	NO		

Rounding errors of up to £2 are tolerable

Variances of £200 or less are tolerable