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	699,393	784,533				Explanation of % variance from PY opening balance not required - Balance brought forward agrees	
2 Precept or Rates and Levies	713,164	917,440	204,276	28.64%	YES		**Increase in Precept -** £120,000 Town Ranger staff costs, £10,000 Staff costs, £15,000 meeting recordings, £42,000 Public Toilets cleaning, £10,000 Bus Shelters, £25,000 General Reserve, £7,000 CCTV Maintenance, increase in Bank interest _£5,000, Total - £224,000 reduction in expenditure budgets - £16,250 Election Costs, **Net difference - £207,750** remaining difference spread over several budget lines.
3 Total Other Receipts	69,143	202,527	133,384	192.91%	YES		**Increase income** - £130,437 more CIL received, £10,676 Bank interest, £391 allotment rent, reduction of income - £8,120 other income net **Net difference - £133,384**
4 Staff Costs	281,593	396,412	114,819	40.77%	YES		**Increase in staff costs** - £81,328 on Town Ranger team of 3 however 1 left during the year, 2x new staff members, 2 x staff members left during the year, Interim Town clerk wages paid for 2 months. NJC SCP increases for employees. Increase £10,268 pension costs as 4 staff enrolled in the pension scheme and 3 left. £18,940.27 increase in NI/Tax due to staffing increase.
5 Loan Interest/Capital Repayment	0	0	0	0.00%	NO		
6 All Other Payments	415,574	594,540	178,966	43.06%	YES		**Increase in other payments** - £87,683 to maintenance 8 x public toilets, £12,273 electric and upgrades to CCTV (9 cameras), £6,806 CCTV maintenance contract, £14,960 Lease/running costs for T Ranger Motor Vehicles x 2, £10,433 Bus Shelter repair, £9,000 Marina gardens work, Town Ranger set up (PPE/Uniforms/Tools) £9,844, Urban Grass Cutting additional cuts - £7,656, Allotment water costs - £2,923, Events - £5,131, Toilet Refurbishment - £93,276 **Total - £259,985**, **reduction in expenditure -** £3,679 Councillor Training, £10,611 Office cleaning, £5,000 Furniture, £19,304 election costs, £8,723 noticeboards, Advertising, printing £3,820, Repairs and Renewals - £3,253, allotment mainteance - £26,629 **Net difference - £178,966**
7 Balances Carried Forward	784,533	913,548				VARIANCE EXPLANATION NOT REQUIRED	
8 Total Cash and Short Term Investments	744,170	844,082				VARIANCE EXPLANATION NOT REQUIRED	
9 Total Fixed Assets plus Other Long Term Investments and	85,378	192,574	107,196	125.55%	YES		**Increase Fixed Assets -** £93,275 for Public toilet refurbishment, £1,460 Civic Regalia, £6 community assets - alloment sites, £741 on Bus Shelter, £5,571 on tools for new team of Town Rangers, £4,881 IT/speed gun equipment, Event road signage £609, Rem Day poppies lamppost £323, event supplies £126, VE day Flag £204 **Total £107,196**
10 Total Borrowings	0	0	0	0.00%	NO		

Rounding errors of up to £2 are tolerable

Variances of £200 or less are tolerable