

Explanation of variances – pro forma

Name of smaller authority:

Norton Parish Council

County area (local councils and par

West Northants Council

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	70,388	28,003				Explanation of % variance from PY opening balance not required - Balance brought forward agrees	
2 Precept or Rates and Levies	18,000	18,500	500	2.78%	NO		
3 Total Other Receipts	75,746	8,694	-67,052	88.52%	YES		In 2022/23, donation of £75,000 was received from a parishioner to enable the Parish Council to purchase the Village Hall. In 2023/24, a £5,559 VAT refund was received, a donation of £688.10 from village fundraising was also received. The mowing grant of approx £195 was received twice in this financial year 2023/24 simply due to the timing of the payment. A £504 refund was received from PKF Littlejohn which related to a duplicate payment. A new monthly payment from a regular user of the Village Hall means regular monthly income of £45 total £540 per year. Since purchasing the Village Hall, £338.50 has been received in hall hire in 2023/24. This explains the reason for the considerable drop in additional income, but when compared without the £75k donation, we do have increased income in 2023/24 due to the factors detailed here.
4 Staff Costs	4,988	6,084	1,096	21.97%	YES		A national pay rise for Clerks was backdated to April 2023. This resulted in back pay of £672. A payroll payment of £398.20 went through at the very start of this financial year, despite being set to be paid in the previous year.
5 Loan Interest/Capital Repayment	0	0	0	0.00%	NO		
6 All Other Payments	131,143	29,316	-101,827	77.65%	YES		In 2022/23 Norton Parish Council purchased the village hall at a cost of £120,000. This then requires a further explanation of an increased level of expenditure in 2023/24. Two payments were made to a contractor for remedial works to the village hall (£8262 and £9,784).
7 Balances Carried Forward	28,003	19,797				VARIANCE EXPLANATION NOT REQUIRED	
8 Total Cash and Short Term Investments	28,003	19,797				VARIANCE EXPLANATION NOT REQUIRED	
9 Total Fixed Assets plus Other Long Term Investments and A	193,588	193,588	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