

Explanation of variances – pro forma

Name of smaller authority: **FITZHEAD PARISH COUNCIL**
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);
- **New from 2020/21 onwards**: variances of £100,000 or more require explanation regardless of the % variation year on year;

	2023/24 £	2024/25 £	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	6,724	8,801				Explanation of % variance from PY opening balance not required - Balance brought forward agrees	
2 Precept or Rates and Levies	5,500	13,738	8,238	149.78%	YES		The Parish Council had previously received a Maintenance Grant from Somerset Council which was withdrawn in 2024/25. £1670 was claimed in the precept to replace this. £2,000 was included in the precept for the cost of cutting verges and hedges, work previously undertaken by Somerset Council. The general reserve was increased to cover 12 months costs in line with best practice requirements. The remainder was to cover cost increases by suppliers.
3 Total Other Receipts	2,291	566	-1,725	75.29%	YES		In 2023/24 the Parish Council received a £1670 Maintenance Grant from Somerset Council, £44 interest and £576 VAT return. In 2024/35 the Parish Council received £56 interest and £509 VAT refund.
4 Staff Costs	1,602	2,951	1,349	84.22%	YES		Increase in Clerk's salary following National Pay Award and contractual pay increases.
5 Loan Interest/Capital Repayment	0	0	0	0.00%	NO		
6 All Other Payments	4,112	4,024	-88	2.14%	NO		
7 Balances Carried Forward	8,801	16,130				VARIANCE EXPLANATION NOT REQUIRED	
8 Total Cash and Short Term Investments	8,801	16,130				VARIANCE EXPLANATION NOT REQUIRED	
9 Total Fixed Assets plus Other Long Term Investments and	15,744	15,744	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