

Explanation of variances – pro forma

Name of smaller authority:

Bucklebury Parish Council

County area (local councils and):

West Berkshire

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	84,554	92,106				Explanation of % variance from PY opening balance not required - Balance brought forward agrees	
2 Precept or Rates and Levies	45,000	38,000	-7,000	15.56%	YES		Precept in 23/24 included £15,000 to oppose a draft Local Plan. In 24/25, the precept includes £5,000 for opposing the draft Local Plan and £1,500 for Speed indicator devices.
3 Total Other Receipts	8,200	5,035	-3,165	38.60%	YES		In 23/24, £6,316 was reclaimed in VAT; no VAT has been reclaimed in 24/25. In 24/25, receipts from the Cemetery were £2,050 against £490 in 23/24. Grants & Donations in 23/24 totaled £597 against £1,231 in 24/25. In 24/25, a payment of £592 was received from West Berkshire District Council as a duplicate payment.
4 Staff Costs	13,050	13,550	500	3.83%	NO		
5 Loan Interest/Capital Repayment	0	0	0	0.00%	NO		
6 All Other Payments	32,598	46,166	13,568	41.62%	YES		In 24/25, £11,395 was spent opposing the Local Plan against £9,024 in 23/24. In 24/25 a beacon was purchased and installed for £2,500. VAT in 24/25 was £5,633 against £3,549 in 23/24. In 24/25, £7,504 has been spent on the meadows against £2,027 in 23/24. In 24/25, £1,464 has been spent IT against £458 in 23/24 (including moving to a .gov.uk domain and email addresses for councillors).
7 Balances Carried Forward	92,106	75,425				VARIANCE EXPLANATION NOT REQUIRED	
8 Total Cash and Short Term Investments	92,106	75,425				VARIANCE EXPLANATION NOT REQUIRED	
9 Total Fixed Assets plus Other Long Term Investments and	12,546	15,250	2,704	21.56%	YES		Assets have increased with a laptop (£305) and the beacon (£2,400).
10 Total Borrowings	0	0	0	0.00%	NO		

Rounding errors of up to £2 are tolerable

Variances of £200 or less are tolerable