

Explanation of variances – pro forma

Name of smaller authority:

COTTINGHAM PARISH COUNCIL

County area (local councils and parish meetings only): East Riding & Northern Lincolnshire Local Councils Association

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	119,639	128,933				Explanation of % variance from PY opening balance not required - Balance brought forward agrees	
2 Precept or Rates and Levies	164,760	213,350	48,590	29.49%	YES		The increased precept reflects the following changes to the budget – increased expenditure of £61220 comprising £14000 for staff costs to include additional part-time staff; £500 to reflect increased utility prices £3400 for Service level Agreements, £3500 general office costs as per increase in previous year's spend, £250 for local newsletters, £500 for telephone/internet costs, £500 in accountancy/audit fees, £50 bank charges, £1000 for VAT provision, £6250 to reflect additional planting and maintenance, £300 networking event, £6470 asset maintenance/street furniture, £1000 allotment costs, £1000 snow/ice clearance, £2500 Anti-social behaviour measures, £10,000 building maintenance, £10,000 for the provision of public toilets. These increases were offset by budget reductions of £1000 for reduced insurance premium, £300 training costs and removal o £2000 contingency, and additional income of £350 for allotments, £230 bank interest and a grant of £8750 towards staff costs.
3 Total Other Receipts	63,682	72,968	9,286	14.58%	NO		
4 Staff Costs	64,718	89,816	25,098	38.78%	YES		2 new part time staff appointed. Town Centre Officer costs £11421.89 Admin Asst £10928.54. 1 cleaner appointed August 2024 associated costs £391.26, pay grade progression for progression for Clerks, £2356.31
5 Loan Interest/Capital Repayment	16,451	16,451	0	0.00%	NO		
6 All Other Payments	137,979	155,386	17,407	12.62%	NO		
7 Balances Carried Forward	128,933	153,598				VARIANCE EXPLANATION NOT REQUIRED	
8 Total Cash and Short Term Investments	116,588	143,926				VARIANCE EXPLANATION NOT REQUIRED	
9 Total Fixed Assets plus Other Long Term Investments and	516,564	519,104	2,540	0.49%	NO		
10 Total Borrowings	130,809	120,229	-10,580	8.09%	NO		

Rounding errors of up to £2 are tolerable

Variances of £200 or less are tolerable