

Explanation of variances – pro forma

Name of smaller authority: **Great Easton and Tilly parish council**

County area (local councils are): **Essex**

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	31,516	27,103				Explanation of % variance from PY opening balance not required - Balance brought forward agrees	
2 Precept or Rates and Levies	42,000	49,000	7,000	16.67%	YES		Budget process showed that higher spending would be needed in 2024-25. See attached.
3 Total Other Receipts	7,356	16,596	9,240	125.61%	YES		See attached breakdown and narrative explanation.
4 Staff Costs	15,148	13,693	-1,455	9.61%	NO		
5 Loan Interest/Capital Repayment					NO		
6 All Other Payments	38,621	34,769	-3,852	9.97%	NO		
7 Balances Carried Forward	27,103	44,237				VARIANCE EXPLANATION NOT REQUIRED	
8 Total Cash and Short Term Investments	27,103	44,237				VARIANCE EXPLANATION NOT REQUIRED	
9 Total Fixed Assets plus Other Long Term Inv	22,259	22,543	284	1.28%	NO		
10 Total Borrowings					NO		

Rounding errors of up to £2 are tolerable

Variances of £200 or less are tolerable

BOX 10 VARIANCE EXPLANATION NOT REQUIRED IF CHANGE CAN BE EXPLAINED BY BOX 5 (CAPITAL PLUS INTEREST PAYMENT)

Great Easton and Tilty Parish Council, Essex

Variance explanations

Category	Description	Component of category	2023-24 £	2024-25 £	Reason for change
Line 2	Precept	Precept	42,000	49,000	November 2023 budget-setting took note of anticipated expenditure on tree surgery of about £4,600 and river management of £3,000, neither of which were allowed for in the 2023-24 budget or precept. All costs were expected to increase by the rate of inflation (approx 4% at the time of setting the budget) in the coming year. Reserves had eroded by £4,500 the previous year. The increase in the precept was set to take these factors into account.
Line 2	Total on Section 2		42,000	49,000	
Variance explained			17%	7,000	

Line 3	Total other receipts				
	Interest and bank payments		30		Interest received in 2023-24 £29.95. The deposit account was closed in late 2023 - the mandate could not be updated as the account was no longer offered. So no interest was received in 2024-25. A new deposit account is now being opened.
	VAT refund		5,317	3,777	VAT was reclaim in 2024-25 was lower as it was for one year's VAT payments instead of three years'.
	Grants			12,550	Three grants were received in 2024-25, each earmarked for specific projects. These were £1,150 from Groundworks UK for the Neighbourhood Plan; £1,400 Ward Member's grant from the District council for playground equipment; and £10,000 from the UK Shared Prosperity Fund, allocated by the district council, for refurbishment of an old building on a playing field to make it a community venue. Total grants were therefore £12,550.
	Donations received		140	40	Donations in 2024-25 were to reimburse the cost of two Remembrance Day wreaths for local community associations. Donations in 2023-24 were £30 for two wreaths and also £110 from the Parish Hall Fund to reimburse the cost of equipment for the hall which had mistakenly been charged to the parish council.

Line 3	Total Section 2		Bursary		113	A training bursary was received in 2023-24 but not 2024-25	
			Hall hire paid in error		250	In 2023-24 the district council paid the fee for using the hall as a polling station into the parish council's bank account instead of the Parish Hall Fund charity's bank account. No similar error occurred in 2024-25.	
			Rent		1,440	120	Rent was received in 2023-24 from the football club using two sites as playing fields for the years 2022-23 and 2023-24, one at £600 pa and one at £120 pa. Rent for 2024-25 is for one site only, for one year. The club has ended its lease on the second site, for which the rent was £600 pa.
			Office expenses contribution		67	109	Clerk's printer is used for printing for two parish councils. The other parish council contributed to the purchase cost of a toner cartridge.
Line 3		Total Section 2			7,357	16,596	
Variance explained				126%	9,240		