

Explanation of variances – pro forma

Name of smaller authority: **The Grouped Parish Council of Seavington St Mary and Seavington St Michael**

County area (local councils and **Somerset**)

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);

- variances of £100,000 or more require explanation regardless of the % variation year on year;

- **New from 2025/26 onwards:** variances of £500,000 or more in Box 3 require explanation regardless of the % variation year on year for smaller authorities with income and/or expenditure exceeding £6,500,000

	2024/25 £	2025/26 £	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	19,462	27,600				required - Balance brought forward does not agree, query this	
2 Precept or Rates and Levies	37,507	47,000	9,493	25.31%	YES		Parish Council was advised by Somerset Council to up the Precept as they were giving more to the Parish to fund. The Parish Council wanted to build a good reserve for future years.
3 Total Other Receipts	8,486	9,503	1,017	11.98%	NO		
4 Staff Costs	8,621	9,960	1,339	15.53%	YES		The Councillors reviewed the Clerks wage band and decided it should be more realistic with the work involved. The band moved from band 22 to band 29 - minute reference 3882
5 Loan Interest/Capital Repayment	0	0	0	0.00%	NO		
6 All Other Payments	27,600	32,033	4,433	16.06%	YES		Purchased - two new goal post for the playing field at a cost of £3899.96, salt spreader £108.33 and "please put your dog on a lead" signs for the playing field £163.04.
7 Balances Carried Forward	29,234	42,110				VARIANCE EXPLANATION NOT REQUIRED	
8 Total Cash and Short Term Investments	29,234	42,110				VARIANCE EXPLANATION NOT REQUIRED	
9 Total Fixed Assets plus Other Long Term Investments and	17,077	21,294	4,217	24.69%	YES		Purchased - goal posts £3899.96, Salt Spreader £108.33, "please put your dog on a lead" signs £163.04
10 Total Borrowings	0	0	0	0.00%	NO		

Rounding errors of up to £2 are tolerable

Variances of £200 or less are tolerable