

Explanation of variances – pro forma

Name of smaller authority: **WINSFORD TOWN COUNCIL**
 County area (local councils and): **CHESHIRE WEST AND CHESTER**

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);
- a breakdown of approved reserves on the next tab if the total reserves (Box 7) figure is more than twice the annual precept/rates & levies value (Box 2).

	2017/18 £	2018/19 £	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	342,260	309,658				Explanation of % variance from PY opening balance not required - Balance brought forward agrees	
2 Precept or Rates and Levies	370,060	431,315	61,255	16.55%	YES		Precept was increased between 2017/18 and 2018/19 to meet increased demands on council finances (e.g. cost of holding events; staffing costs; building costs) and also because of the ongoing decreases in financial support from Cheshire West and Chester Council. Detailed changes were: - <u>CWAC Grant</u> - reduction of £10,537; <u>Open Spaces</u> - increase in wages of £2,643/provision of services - increase of £3,800; contract costs - increase of £700; and increase in maintenance costs of £2,000; <u>Town Promotions</u> - increase in event costs of £15,000; decrease of £10,000 in town security (removal of PCSO payment); <u>Establishment costs</u> - increase in wages of £3,100; increase in business rates of £4,500; <u>Public Buildings</u> - increase of £5,000
3 Total Other Receipts	119,032	54,366	-64,666	54.33%	YES		<u>Miscellaneous Receipts</u> - reduction of £24,529.52; <u>School Milk Subsidy</u> - reduction of £2,454.01; <u>Reimbursed payments</u> - reduction of £31,351.85 - reductions due to payment of s.106 monies (£11,330.00) and business rates refund (£17,012.43) in 2017-18
4 Staff Costs	216,030	213,097	-2,933	1.36%	NO		
5 Loan Interest/Capital Repayment	0	0	0	0.00%	NO		
6 All Other Payments	305,664	282,474	-23,190	7.59%	NO		
7 Balances Carried Forward	309,658	299,768			NO	VARIANCE EXPLANATION NOT REQUIRED	
8 Total Cash and Short Term Investments	338,369	309,281			NO	VARIANCE EXPLANATION NOT REQUIRED	
9 Total Fixed Assets plus Other Long Term Investments and	2,198,756	2,198,596	-160	0.01%	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