

Explanation of variances – pro forma

Name of smaller authority: WINSFORD TOWN COUNCIL
County area (local councils and parish meetings only): 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);
- New from 2020/21 onwards: variances of £100,000 or more require explanation regardless of the % variation year on year;
- 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).

	2021/22 £	2022/23 £	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	398,576	475,467					Explanation of % variance from PY opening balance not required - Balance brought forward agrees
2 Precept or Rates and Levies	568,324	633,827	65,503	11.53%	NO		
3 Total Other Receipts	148,338	175,067	26,729	18.02%	YES		Overall increase of £26,729 due to the following: - - Income from open spaces (increase of £5,057.76) - Miscellaneous Receipts (increase of £7,539.22 compared to 2021/22), including grant from the Architectural Heritage Fund (£34,037.00); CWAC (£15,070.00); and CIL monies (£4,207.62) - Grants (increase of £2,335.05) - Milk Subsidy (increase of £6,919.94) - Bank Interest (increase of £1,335.55)
4 Staff Costs	257,365	318,559	61,194	23.78%	YES		Overall increase of £61,194 due to the following: - - Appointment of new posts - Implementation of National Salary Award 2022/23
5 Loan Interest/Capital Repayment	0	0	0	0.00%	NO		Overall increase of £144,457 due to the following: - - IT Support (increase of £4,058.86) - Cwac Costs (increase of £2,030.17) - Room Hire (increase of £1,831.34) Overall increase in establishment of £7,970.68 compared to 2021/22 - Repairs to paths, seats, bins and fences (increase of £9,842.59 - due to cost of reinstating path between Station Road and King George VI pay area - cost £10,400.00) Overall decrease in Open Spaces expenditure of £17,244.85 compared to 2021/22 Overall increase in school milk payments of £8,204.10 compared to 2021/22 - Installation of beacon for Jubilee event (£1,750) - Purchase of beacon (£2,645.00) - Purchase of fireworks for bonfire night - not held by Town Council in 2021/22 (£6,000.00) - Stage for proclamation of new king (£1,950.00) - Increase of £3,300 for instalment of Christmas lights - Payment of Arts Council grant to Cheshire Dance (£12,454) - Town Council had received grant in 2021/22 and passed it onto Cheshire Dance for the Winsford Creates event - Increase of £2,421.93 in s.137 grant payments - Cost of by-elections - £9,565.40 - no cost of elections in 2021/22 - Increase of £11,668.60 under 'Town Security' - made up of one-off costs of CCTV at OverWharton Recs Overall increase of £46,795.67 under 'Special Items' in budget. Overall decrease of £8,986.60 under miscellaneous. - Overall increase of £82,732.24 under 'Capital Items' - these are transfers from capital to cover of the cost Leaf Lane play area (£27,035.91); CCTV equipment (£9,130); Christmas lights (£15,855.93) and equipment for play areas and parks (£30,710.40)
6 All Other Payments	382,406	526,863	144,457	37.78%	YES		
7 Balances Carried Forward	475,467	438,939			NO	VARIANCE EXPLANATION NOT REQUIRED	
8 Total Cash and Short Term Investments	504,196	460,346				VARIANCE EXPLANATION NOT REQUIRED	
9 Total Fixed Assets plus Other Long Term Investments and Assets	2,247,321	2,314,751	67,430	3.00%	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