

## Explanation of variances 2022-2023

Name of smaller authority: **Ashfield-cum-Thorpe Parish Council**  
 County area: **Mid Suffolk**

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, <b>DO NOT OVERWRITE THESE BOXES</b>	Explanation from smaller authority (must include narrative and supporting figures)
1 Balances Brought Forward	2,893	3,232				Explanation of % variance from PY opening balance not required - Balance brought forward agrees	
2 Precept or Rates and Levies	3,039	3,097	58	1.91%	NO		
3 Total Other Receipts	53	409	356	671.70%	YES		A large VAT claim for the period 1/4/19 to 31/3/22 was submitted resulting in a claim for £406.70, the balance of £2.25 (resulting in a rounded figure of £409) was from interest on the Council's reserves
4 Staff Costs	1,424	1,888	464	32.58%	YES		The Clerk's payscale was raised in January 2022 to bring it into line with other local councils, prior to the incremental NJC pay settlement increases, which were paid via a substantial backpayment in December.
5 Loan Interest/Capital Repayment	0	0	0	0.00%	NO		
6 All Other Payments	1,329	1,505	176	13.24%	NO		
7 Balances Carried Forward	3,232	3,345			NO	VARIANCE EXPLANATION NOT REQUIRED	
8 Total Cash and Short Term Investments	3,232	3,345				VARIANCE EXPLANATION NOT REQUIRED	
9 Total Fixed Assets plus Other Long Term Investments and	2,502	2,502	0	0.00%	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