

Explanation of variances

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).

	2020/21 £	2021/22 £	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	2,427	2,893				Explanation of % variance from PY opening balance not required - Balance brought forward agrees	
2 Precept or Rates and Levies	2,982	3,039	57	1.91%	NO		
3 Total Other Receipts	0	53	53	#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!	#DIV/0!	The council received a one-off payment under the Local Council Tax Reduction Scheme of £53
4 Staff Costs	1,562	1,424	-138	8.83%	NO		
5 Loan Interest/Capital Repayment	0	0	0	0.00%	NO		
6 All Other Payments	954	1,329	375	39.31%	YES		The council had to purchase a new laptop for the Clerk at a cost of £384, without this expenditure there would have been no requirement to explain a variance as it would be within the allowance.
7 Balances Carried Forward	2,893	3,232			NO	VARIANCE EXPLANATION NOT REQUIRED	
8 Total Cash and Short Term Investments	2,893	3,232				VARIANCE EXPLANATION NOT REQUIRED	
9 Total Fixed Assets plus Other Long Term Investments and	2,450	2,502	52	2.12%	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