

Explanation of variances 2025/26 - pro forma

Name of smaller authority: Fishbourne Parish Council
 Insert figures from Section 2 of the AGAR in all **Blue** highlighted boxes

Now, 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 £500);
- variances of more than £100,000 must be explained even where this constitutes less than 15%;

Please ensure variance explanations are quantified to reduce the variance excluding stated items below the 15% / £500 / £100,000 threshold

	2026	2025	Variance	Variance	Explanation Required?		DO NOT OVERWRITE THE BOXES HIGHLIGHTED IN RED/GREEN	Explanation (must include narrative and supporting figures) Note: If an explanation is required for the variance of Box 4 and the explanation refers to a change in hours or a change in pay rates, please could you note the previous hours/rates and the updated hours/rates
	£	£	£	%	Is > 15%	Is > £100,000		
1 Balances Brought Forward	78,475	103,233					Explanation of % variance from PY opening balance not required - Balance brought forward agrees	
2 Precept or Rates and Levies	69,231	65,244	3,987	6.11%	NO	NO		
3 Total Other Receipts	12,053	22,025	-9,972	45.28%	YES	NO	There are two main differences in the receipts. The VAT repayment increased from £1835 in 2024-25 to £10226 in 2025-26. Difference +£8391 . Two grants were received in 2024-25 from Sussex PCC (£2500) and the UKSPF (£15269) totalling £17769 but no grants were received in 2025-26. Difference -£17769 . Overall difference -£9378 .	
4 Staff Costs	24,847	22,644	2,203	9.73%	NO	NO		
5 Loan Interest/Capital Repayment	13,120	13,120	0	0.00%	NO	NO		
6 All Other Payments	31,691	76,263	-44,572	58.45%	YES	NO	In 2024-25 the Council installed solar street lighting at a total of £29357; installed a new bus shelter at a cost of £10011 and a new bench which cost £3741; tree surgery was required costing £1540; and there was also a large increase in VAT paid, which was £10226. This adds up to £54875 expenditure on big projects. In 2025-26 the Council installed two benches at a cost of £4975 and paid VAT of £2980 which totals £7955 . Difference -£46830 . The remaining difference is due to slight variations on regular expenditure.	
7 Balances Carried Forward	90,101	78,475	11,626	14.81%	NO	NO		
8 Total Cash and Short Term Investments	90,101	78,475	11,626	14.81%	NO	NO		
9 Total Fixed Assets plus Other Long Term Investments and Assets	78,707	76,631	2,076	2.71%	NO	NO		
10 Total Borrowings	92,631	101,491	-8,860	8.73%	NO	NO		