

Explanation of variances – pro forma

Name of smaller authority: **North Marston Parish Council**

County area (local councils and **Buckinghamshire**)

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;

	2022/23 £	2023/24 £	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	89,447	84,756				Explanation of % variance from PY opening balance not required - Balance brought forward agrees	
2 Precept or Rates and Levies	31,500	33,075	1,575	5.00%	NO		
3 Total Other Receipts	22,341	28,724	6,383	28.57%	YES		The Precept increased by 5% accounting for just over £1,5k of the variance. A large donation towards a MVAS increased donations by £2.4k, The VAT reclaim is just over £1k higher than last year, and income from the Preschool's hire of the village hall and grant income is higher. Small bank interest increases and a small increase on the barn and allotment rental charge accounts for the rest of the variance.
4 Staff Costs	6,715	8,698	1,983	29.53%	YES		The Clerk's role was assessed by Buckinghamshire and Milton Keynes Association of Local Councils. Where it had been paid at SCP11, the role's responsibilities were assessed at SCP20. There was also a NALC SCP payscale increase. The Parish Council agreed that the role would be paid at SCP19 and two additional hours were also agreed to increase from 10 to 12 hours per week. Back pay from April 2023 to September 2023 at the previous rate of pay was given according to NALC guidelines, and the new rate of pay from there on in is the reason for the increase in staff costs. The Clerk is the only member of staff employed by the council.
5 Loan Interest/Capital Repayment	0	0	0	0.00%	NO		
6 All Other Payments	51,817	49,163	-2,654	5.12%	NO		
7 Balances Carried Forward	84,756	88,694				VARIANCE EXPLANATION NOT REQUIRED	
8 Total Cash and Short Term Investments	84,756	88,694				VARIANCE EXPLANATION NOT REQUIRED	
9 Total Fixed Assets plus Other Long Term Investments and	786,880	787,426	546	0.07%	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