

Explanation of variances 2025/26 – pro forma

Name of smaller authority:
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? Is > 15%	Explanation Required? Is > £100,000	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
1 Balances Brought Forward	5,945	12,934					DO NOT OVERWRITE THE BOXES HIGHLIGHTED IN RED/GREEN Explanation of % variance from PY opening balance not required - Balance brought forward does not agree
2 Precept or Rates and Levies	17,640	8,820	8,820	100.00%	YES	NO	Precept increase of 100% was approved by Council on 23rd Jan 2025. The significant increase was to regularise the councils financial position in terms of working reserves following a number of large unbudgeted for expenses (tree works etc)
3 Total Other Receipts	4,858	683	4,175	611.31%	YES	NO	To one off additional payments were received in 25/26 £1879.20 (a one of wayleave payment from Fibrus for works on Parish Council Land) and £1345 (a donation from a parishioner who has requested anonymity for the replacement of the defib). A new agreement has been made with the Parish Rooms that they will repay Bassenthwaite Parish Council for the proportion of the insurance that covers the Parish Rooms (£738). The remaining £211 variance is just minor alterations e.g. in VAT return
4 Staff Costs	4,818	4,983	-162	3.25%	NO	NO	
5 Loan Interest/Capital Repayment	0	0	0	0.00%	NO	NO	
6 All Other Payments	8,686	11,513	-2,906	25.24%	YES	NO	S.137 donations were decreased in 25/26 due to budgetary concerns (£1000 less was given in the 25/26 FY over the previous one). Tree works in 25/26 were £2700 cheaper in 25/26 than 24/25
7 Balances Carried Forward	15,018	5,944	9,074	152.65%	YES	NO	Bassenthwaite Parish Council significantly increased its precept in 25/26 to regularise the Parish Councils financial position in terms of working reserves due to a series of large unbudgeted for expenses over the 23/24 and 24/25 financial year. Bassenthwaite Parish Council has finished the 25/26 financial year in a much better position financially following the budget decisions taken in 24/25
8 Total Cash and Short Term Investments	15,018	5,944	9,074	152.66%	YES	NO	
9 Total Fixed Assets plus Other Long Term Investments and Assets	509,564	509,564	0	0.00%	NO	NO	
10 Total Borrowings	0	0	0	0.00%	NO	NO	