

Explanation of variances – pro forma									
Name of smaller authority: <b>St Cuthbert (Out) Parish Council</b>									
County area (local councils and parish meetings only): <b>Somerset</b>									
Insert figures from Section 2 of the AGAR in all <b>Blue highlighted boxes</b>									
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);									
• <b>New from 2020/21 onwards:</b> 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	85,485	113,423						
							Explanation of % variance from PY opening balance not required - Balance brought forward agrees		
2	Precept or Rates and Levies	121,487	156,880	35,393	29.13%	YES			Increase of £35,300 explanations as follows: (Elections £13,200 projected potential costs for the May 2022 elections as indicated by our District Council); (Street Furniture £5,000 projected bus shelter refurbishments); (£3,000 potential tree works); (The Leat £3,000 projected costs to build a foot bridge in one of our recreation grounds); (£2,500 Special Projects budget created for eg. buying a storage container for one of our recreation grounds); (Allotments Maintenance £2,100 we are experiencing increasing allotments maintenance costs); (Grant £2,000 grant to support a local school crossing patrol was reinstated); (£1,000 Rights of Working Group budget created as there are extensive RoWs within the Parish that need attention/potential improvement works); (Employment £3,500 increases in salary were in accordance with NALC's National Salary Award and resulted in increases to associated employer's costs eg. HMRC, pension; the Staff's training budget was also increased)
3	Total Other Receipts	8,408	7,196	-1,212	14.41%	NO			
4	Staff Costs	54,883	60,138	5,255	9.57%	NO			
5	Loan Interest/Capital Repayment	0	0	0	0.00%	NO			
6	All Other Payments	47,074	28,335	-18,739	39.81%	YES			Decrease of £18,805 explanations as follows: (CSW £3,163 in 21/22 Council purchased a Speed Indicator Unit), (Allotments Improvements £3,496 in 21/22 Council created new plots and improved water provision), (Environmental Initiatives £1,675 - in 21/22 more environmental grant applications received, in 21/22 Council paid for traffic survey counts in Wookey Hole), (Heritage Signs £3,903 in 21/22 refurbishment costs but none in 22/23 - budget transferred to Marked Reserves as this is a long-term project), (Play Equipment £1,180 in 21/22 more spent on maintenance of equipment), (Professional Fees in 21/22 £1,269 legal costs but none in 22/23), (Street Furniture £1,270 in 21/22 purchased dog & litter bins), (Training £246 in 21/22 more training), (VAT £2,603 in 21/22 more VAT payments)
7	Balances Carried Forward	113,423	189,026			NO	VARIANCE EXPLANATION NOT REQUIRED		
8	Total Cash and Short Term Investments	113,423	189,026				VARIANCE EXPLANATION NOT REQUIRED		
9	Total Fixed Assets plus Other Long Term Investments and	198,077	199,597	1,520	0.77%	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