

Explanation of variances – pro forma

Name of smaller authority: **Otterburn Parish Council**

County area (local councils and): **Northumberland**

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:** 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).

	2019/20 £	2020/21 £	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	11,012	10,815				Explanation of % variance from PY opening balance not required - Balance brought forward agrees	
2 Precept or Rates and Levies	6,582	6,582	0	0.00%	NO		
3 Total Other Receipts	7	7,871	7,864	###	YES		In 2019-20 the only receipts were bank interest and a bank refund. In 2020-21 the Parish Council received grants from Northumbria Water (£3333), Ray Windfarm (£1823) for Speed camera and defibrillator parts, £1939 from HLF Revitalising Redesdale for noticeboard, VAT Refund (£725) and £48 from neighbouring parish councils
4 Staff Costs	2,783	3,042	259	9.31%	NO		
5 Loan Interest/Capital Repayment	0	0	0	0.00%	NO		
6 All Other Payments	4,003	5,981	1,978	49.41%	YES		Whilst much of the expenditure in 2019-20 match that in 2020-21 the main differences that explains the increased spend over the two years is in 2020-21 extra spend on noticeboard £1939, Litter bin / dog bag dispensers £788, defibrillators £132, repair to solar light £97. In 2019-20 there was additional spend of the following amounts for maintenance to seating £77, Donations £532, grass cutting £150, meeting room hire £60, stationery £108
7 Balances Carried Forward	10,815	16,245			YES	VARIANCE EXPLANATION NOT REQUIRED FROM LOCAL TAXATION/LEVIES	The main difference between the two balances is that whilst funds have been received for the speed camera the actual items were not purchased until April 2021 for £5057. The closing balance is still higher than originally planned due to certain projects not being able to be progressed as a result of pandemic restrictions
8 Total Cash and Short Term Investments	10,815	16,245				VARIANCE EXPLANATION NOT REQUIRED	
9 Total Fixed Assets plus Other Long Term Investments and	41,875	43,769	1,894	4.52%	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