

## Explanation of variances – pro forma

Name of smaller authority: **Thorverton Parish Council (DV0360)**

County area (local councils and **parish meetings only**):

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;

	2023/24 £	2024/25 £	Variance £	Variance %	Explanation Required?	Automatic responses trigger below based on figures input, <b>DO NOT OVERWRITE THESE BOXES</b>	Explanation from smaller authority ( <b>must include narrative and supporting figures</b> )
1 Balances Brought Forward	53,615	62,036				Explanation of % variance from PY opening balance not required - Balance brought forward agrees	
2 Precept or Rates and Levies	17,763	20,529	2,766	15.57%	YES	Thorverton Parish Council increased the precept to allocate additional funds for donations (£250), much-needed play area equipment (£1,000), expected additional maintenance costs for the new cemetery and Barliabins (£1,000) and the implications of the new National Insurance contributions to be incurred in the new financial year (£500). Total = £2,750	
3 Total Other Receipts	5,121	6,764	1,643	32.08%	YES	Thorverton Parish Council received more grants in 2024-25 (£5087 Stage 2 Affordable Housing grant) compared to 2023-24 (£2,500 Stage 1 Affordable Housing grant & £1,732 Proceeds of Crime Act grant). Allotment rents for 2023-24 were paid after 1 April 2024 so income in 2024-25 was £390 compared to £30 in 2023-24. Similarly ground rents for properties in the Council's car park were paid more promptly in 2024-25 (£490) than in 2023-24 (£140). The combined effect of these disparities reduces the difference to 1.52%.	
4 Staff Costs	5,780	5,794	14	0.24%	NO	Because Thorverton Parish Council ran out of cheques for the payments in March 2024 the clerk's pay for February 2024 was not received until April. This meant that £755 was incurred in 2024-25 that should have been incurred in 2023-24. The nationally agreed increase for 2023-24 was implemented in March 2024 and thus was carried forward to 2024-25 because of the lack of cheques. The increase was +7.57% at the clerk's SCP (14) which cost an additional £468 in monthly cist and 390 in backpay. The 2024-25 nationally agreed pay increase was +4.43% which was paid in March 2025 adding an additional £271. These three amounts reduce the difference to £14 which is +0.24%	
5 Loan Interest/Capital Repayment	0	0	0	0.00%	NO		
6 All Other Payments	8,683	26,736	18,053	207.91%	YES	Thorverton Parish Council had 3 exceptional areas of expenditure in 2024-25, which were: Purchase of land for a new cemetery - £10,145 Expenditure on the Affordable Housing Project (for which grants were received, see above) - £6485 in 2024-25 compared to £494 in 23-24, nett £5991 A spring rocker had to be repaired in the play area at a cost of £2,040 (labour and spare parts). These 3 areas add up to £18,176 which, if excluded, would make the difference -£123 or -1.42%	
7 Balances Carried Forward	62,036	56,799				VARIANCE EXPLANATION NOT REQUIRED	
8 Total Cash and Short Term Investments	62,037	54,701				VARIANCE EXPLANATION NOT REQUIRED	
9 Total Fixed Assets plus Other Long Term Investments and Assets	69,987	69,987	0	0.00%	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