

Explanation of variances 2024/25

Name of smaller authority: Washington Parish Council

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

	2025 £	2024 £	Variance £	Variance %	Explanation Required? Is > 15% 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
							DO NOT OVERWRITE THE BOXES HIGHLIGHTED IN RED/GREEN
1 Balances Brought Forward	139,604	141,703					Explanation of % variance from PY opening balance not required - Balance brought forward agrees
2 Precept or Rates and Levies	44,877	42,830	2,047	4.78%	NO	NO	
3 Total Other Receipts	7,858	25,661	-17,803	69.38%	YES	NO	Variance is largely due to the £16,597.42 boost of 2023.24 income from additional CIL monies and £652.69 less vat reclaimed in 2024.25. There was a £393 reduction in interest earned on the Council's savings account in 2024.25 due to a cut in the interest rates and the transfer some of the funds to a longer term savings account which will pay out higher interest in September 2025.
4 Staff Costs	30,471	27,728	2,743	9.89%	NO	NO	
5 Loan Interest/Capital Repayment	0	0	0	0.00%	NO	NO	
6 All Other Payments	50,686	42,862	7,824	18.25%	YES	NO	Late invoicing (circa £667) of litter collection service, grounds maintenance cost increased £1,039 from £4,976, costs for repairing and replacing some of the playground/recreation ground equipment rose £3,423 from £1,542, and there was a new £1,080 cost for maintaining the Council's two Speed Indicator Devices. The Council awarded £2,985 more in grants which were paid to the Village Hall from Community Infrastructure Levies for its green energy projects. Administration costs reduced (circa £730) largely because the Council had paid its 2024.25 (circa £415) annual accounting software licence in the previous financial year.
7 Balances Carried Forward	111,183	139,604	-28,421	20.36%	YES	NO	The Council started 2024.25 with an opening balance £2,099 lower than in the previous year, and reduced and allocated some of its reserves towards the 2024.25 operating budget to minimise the impact on the precept. Income was £15,766 (-£17,803 + £2,047 increase in precept) less than in the previous year largely due to the 2023.24 income being inflated by the £16,597.42 CIL funds received that year. Payments rose £10,567 in 2024.25 due to increases in staffing costs (see box 4) operating costs and grants (see box 6). This, together with the reduced income, resulted in a total -£28,422 variance and a reduced balance carried forward to the new financial year.
8 Total Cash and Short Term Investments	111,183	139,604	-28,421	20.36%	YES	NO	As above and Sheet 1
9 Total Fixed Assets plus Other Long Term Investments and Assets	34,504	34,504	0	0.00%	NO	NO	
10 Total Borrowings	0	0	0	0.00%	NO	NO	

AGAR 2024.25 Explanation of Variances: Sheet 1/Allocated provisions - Washington Parish Council

CIL Reserves	2024/25	2023/24	VARIANCE	
CIL (to be spent by 27/04/25)	0	£ -		0
CIL (to be spent by 18/10/26)	£ 7,049.88	£ 23,643.81	-£	16,593.93
CIL (to be spent by 31/10/27)	£ 24,267.97	£ 29,167.97	-£	4,900.00
CIL (to be spent by 16/10/28)	£ 16,597.42	£ 16,597.42	£	-
	£ 47,915.27	£ 69,409.20	-£	21,493.93
Earmarked Reserves				
MUGA improvements	£ 3,500.00	£ 1,500.00	£	2,000.00
Playground improvements	£ 2,000.00	£ 800.00	£	1,200.00
Recreation ground improvement:	£ 2,000.00	£ 1,650.00	£	350.00
Neighbourhood Plan	£ 4,000.00	£ 3,000.00	£	1,000.00
Highways improvements	£ 1,500.00	£ 1,500.00	£	-
Gravestones - remedial	£ 1,200.00	£ 1,000.00	£	200.00
Data Protection	£ 600.00	£ 500.00	£	100.00
Office equipment	£ 800.00	£ 600.00	£	200.00
Legal/professional fees	£ 1,650.00	£ 650.00	£	1,000.00
Speed Indicator replacement	£ 4,500.00	£ -	£	4,500.00
	£ 21,750.00	£ 11,200.00	£	10,550.00 net increase
General Reserves	£ 41,517.26	£ 58,995.15	-£	17,477.89 net decrease in 2024.25
Total Funds	£ 111,182.53	£ 139,604.35	-£	28,421.82 net decrease in 2024.25