

Explanation of variances – pro forma for local councils

Wickham Bishops Parish Council

The JPAG 'Practitioners' Guide' (paragraph 2.15 onwards) provides guidance on explaining significant variances. Please provide explanations for the following:

- variances of more than 15% between totals for individual boxes (except variances of less than £200);
- if the total reserves (Box 7) figure is more than twice the annual precept value (Box 2).

Section 1	2013/14 £	2014/15 £	Variance £	Variance %	Detailed explanation of variance (with amounts £)
Box 2 Precept	11,444	11,520	76	0.7%	*Box 2 figure of submitted 2013-14 Return incorrectly included £556 LCTS grant. Correct on this form.
Box 3 Other receipts	1,222	1,451	229	18.8%	*Box 3 figure of submitted 2013-14 Return incorrectly excluded £556 LCTS grant. Correct on this form.
Additional receipts due to £380 credit in 2014 from cancelled cheques issued in previous year, offset by lower LCTS grant -£106 and lower VAT claim -£46.					
Box 4 Staff costs	4640	5913	1273	27.4%	
£176 overlap period of new clerk and interim management; £501 additional pay due to increased Clerk hours and January pay increase; £360 out-sourced payroll costs - not used in 2013-14; £236 due to the Parish Council being without a clerk for half of 2013-14. The additional home office allowance £154 and mobile phone and travel costs £83 are due to employing a clerk for all of 2014-15.					
Box 5 Loan interest/ capital repayments	0	0	0	0	
Box 6 Other payments	5330	7998	2668	50.1%	
£1,077 Section 137 spend on bulbs, defibrillator and trestle bridge boards renewal cf. £0 in 2013-14; £1,405 Amenity Fund spend on playground equipment and fencing repairs cf. £0 in 2013-14; £181 additional spend on street-lighting electricity settling 2013-14 unpaid invoices.					
Box 9 Fixed assets & long term assets	23,900	23,050	850	3.6%	
Box 10 Borrowings	0	0	0	0	
Explanation for 'high' reserves	Box 7 is more than twice Box 2 because				