

Explanation of variances – pro forma

Name of smaller authority: Old Laund Booth Parish Council
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);
- variances of £100,000 or more require explanation regardless of the % variation year on year;
- New from 2025/26 onwards: variances of £500,000 or more in Box 3 require explanation regardless of the % variation year on year for smaller authorities with income and/or expenditure exceeding £6,500,000

	2024/25 £	2025/26 £	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	28,671	27,427				Explanation of % variance from PY opening balance not required - Balance brought forward agrees	
2 Precept or Rates and Levies	13,000	13,000	0	0.00%	NO		
3 Total Other Receipts	2,201	906	-1,295	58.83%	YES		VAT of £666.04 was not recoverd in the financial year due to access to the online vat account not being gained until after the year end. VAT for 2025/26 was recovered in April 26 and was higher than VAT recovered in 2024/25 by £319, due to more VAT recoverable purchases being made (including a laptop, new website & hosting and christmas items). Receipts for 2024/25 included an £1800.00 grant from Pendle Borough Council, however, no grants were received in the year 2025/26 financial year. No donations were received in the 2024/25 year, however, £500 was received in donations in the 2025/26 year. An unexpected £176 refund was received in the year 2024/25 which was not repeated in the year 2025/26. Unexpected Precept interest was received in the 2025/26 year of £207.00. Due to moving cash from the current account to the savings account bank interest was higher in the 2025/26 year by £120.00. Taking these transactions into account the difference year on year is £201 / 6%.
4 Staff Costs	3,516	853	-2,663	75.73%	YES		Variance due to the unexpected resignation of the Clerk in May 2025, resulting in no further staff salary payments being made during the year 2025/26. An interim Clerk was appointed, with costs incurred paid under professional fees (see Box 6).
5 Loan Interest/Capital Repayment	0	0	0	0.00%	NO		
6 All Other Payments	12,929	14,890	1,961	15.17%	YES		Increase partly due to costs associated with engaging an interim Clerk on a contractual basis following the resignation of the Clerk in May 2025. These costs are included under professional fees rather than staff costs (see Box 4). Donations of £854 made in the 2024/25 year were not repeated in the 2025/26 year. Taking these transactions into account the difference year on year is £152.00 / 5.71%
7 Balances Carried Forward	27,427	25,590				VARIANCE EXPLANATION NOT REQUIRED	
8 Total Cash and Short Term Investments	27,427	25,590				VARIANCE EXPLANATION NOT REQUIRED	
9 Total Fixed Assets plus Other Long Term Investments and	48,274	48,768	494	1.02%	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