

**Explanation of variances 2025/26 – pro forma**

Name of smaller authority: **Great Aine 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

	2026 £	2025 £	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
1 Balances Brought Forward	34,124	40,275					Explanation of % variance from PY opening balance not required - Balance brought forward agrees
2 Precept or Rates and Levies	38,000	30,000	8,000	26.67%	YES	NO	To comply with recommended practice and Council policy, the Council took the decision to increase the precept to ensure that general reserves were increased. The remainder of the increase was justified by the Council anticipating increasing costs at an average of 14% overall.
3 Total Other Receipts	9,093	31,290	-22,197	70.94%	YES	NO	During the year 2024/25 we received a one off grant from Stratford District Councils Community Climate Nature Fund for £15842, which was used for 3 climate projects. We also received a VAT refund of £8950. These 2 receipts totalled £24792. There were no similar receipts during 2025/26 which explains the reduction in this box.
4 Staff Costs	17,912	20,619	-2,707	13.13%	NO	NO	
5 Loan Interest/Capital Repayment	0	0	0	0.00%	NO	NO	
6 All Other Payments	25,744	46,822	-21,078	45.02%	YES	NO	During the year 2025/26 we did not receive the one off receipts referred to in box 3 above, and therefore our payments were reduced accordingly. Our overall receipts and payments in 2025/26 are typical for this Council. 2024/25 was an unusual year.
7 Balances Carried Forward	37,561	34,124	3,437	10.07%	NO	NO	
8 Total Cash and Short Term Investments	37,561	34,124	3,437	10.07%	NO	NO	
9 Total Fixed Assets plus Other Long Term Investments and Assets	86,722	88,478	-1,756	1.98%	NO	NO	
10 Total Borrowings	0	0	0	0.00%	NO	NO	