

Explanation of variances

Name of smaller authority: ASHINGTON TOWN COUNCIL

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

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;

• a breakdown of approved reserves on the next tab if the total reserves (Box 7) figure is more than twice the annual precept/rates & levies value (Box 2).

	2020/21 £	2021/22 £	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	381,348	486,530				Explanation of % variance from PY opening balance not required - Balance brought forward agrees	
2 Precept or Rates and Levies	796,180	798,060	1,880	0.24%	NO		
3 Total Other Receipts	48,571	99,588	51,017	105.04%	YES		Supporting Figures are included in the Income Expl tab. The variance is explained by the receipt of additional funding received towards the Jack Charlton Statue which will be completed in the 2022/23 Financial Year, and also £40k 106 funding towards Hirst Park. There were fewer contributions from allotment associations for capital schemes carried out on the allotments. capital schemes (-£7,783), but income for running costs such as water, rents and management were only slightly down (2%) as the Council did not seek reimbursement for some water rates, due to a new system due to be installed. The Council also had an insurance payout of £7,580 in 2021/22 to cover damage to the Council's memorial garden wall.
4 Staff Costs	200,498	191,598	-8,900	4.44%	NO		
5 Loan Interest/Capital Repayment	0	0	0	0.00%	NO		
6 All Other Payments	539,071	500,380	-38,691	7.18%	NO		
7 Balances Carried Forward	486,530	692,200			NO	VARIANCE EXPLANATION NOT REQUIRED	
8 Total Cash and Short Term Investments	449,118	582,030				VARIANCE EXPLANATION NOT REQUIRED	
9 Total Fixed Assets plus Other Long Term Investments and	578,330	616,333	38,003	6.57%	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