

## Explanation of variances – pro forma

Name of smaller authority: **Preesall Town Council**

County area (local councils and parish meetings only): **Lancashire**

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);
- 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).

	2017/18 £	2018/19 £	Variance £	Variance %	Explanation Required?	Automatic responses trigger below based on figures input, <b>DO NOT OVERWRITE THESE BOXES</b>	Explanation from smaller authority (must include narrative and supporting figures)
1 Balances Brought Forward	49,022	83,538				Explanation of % variance from PY opening balance not required - Balance brought forward agrees	
2 Precept or Rates and Levies	92,588	84,101	-8,487	9.17%	NO		
3 Total Other Receipts	10,575	7,896	-2,679	25.33%	YES		In 17/18 VAT refunds totalled £4990 (this was as a result of VAT from works on the BMX track in 16/17 being paid into the council's bank account at the beginning of 17/18) compared with VAT receipts of £2273 in 18/19, a difference of £2717.
4 Staff Costs	40,813	44,763	3,950	9.68%	NO		
5 Loan Interest/Capital Repayment	0	0	0	0.00%	NO		
6 All Other Payments	27,834	35,419	7,585	27.25%	YES		The council made local services contributions of (£5000) to the dredging of the river bed so that the local ferry could run, and (£8065) to the youth and community centre to cover the donation to running costs and repair work. It also had additional community expenditure to commemorate the centenary of the RAF (flagpole £876), memorial bench (£607) and held a Battle's over event (£996). In addition, councillors were allocated their own email address because of GDPR (£206) and printing and stationery also increased (£123). Administration costs (£567 LALC fee) that should have been deducted in 17/18 wasn't presented until April 18/19. The principal council announced that it had incorrectly not charged VAT on the past 3 elections, however, there were no election costs giving a net reduction (£-3891). The council made fewer grants (-£4354), had reduced parish maintenance (-£468) and spent less on training (-£157). The remaining difference is attributable to minor changes in expenditure within the budget heads.
7 Balances Carried Forward	83,538	95,353			NO	VARIANCE EXPLANATION NOT REQUIRED	
8 Total Cash and Short Term Investments	83,538	95,353				VARIANCE EXPLANATION NOT REQUIRED	
9 Total Fixed Assets plus Other Long Term Investments and	71,021	77,214	6,193	8.72%	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