

Blackawton Parish Council
ANNUAL RETURN - Section 2 : Statement of Accounts

Explanation of variances

This is prepared based on information in "Governance and Accountability for Local Councils : a Practitioner's Guide"

Important note: These figures have been prepared on a RECEIPTS and PAYMENTS basis.

Box No.	Description	31/03/2024 £	31/03/2025 £	Variance £	Variance %	Explanation Required?	Notes
1	Balances brought fwd	51628	53576				BALANCE B/F AGREES
2	Annual precept	19000	23000	4000	21%	Yes	The Precept was increased in response to the budget setting process which used forecast receipts from the Cemetery and forecast payments. Forecast payments were increased in 24/25 compared with 23/24. The three main reasons were: 1. Staff Costs - Increase in budgeted staff costs following from the increase in core hours from 9 to 11 hours per week in May 2023. Change +£2,353 2. Grants - Budget allocation to make grants increased by +£500 3. Council Asset Maintenance - Budget increased by + £671 compared with 23/24. Residual variance 3%.
3	Total other receipts	5218	3188	-2031	39%	Yes	Receipts were reduced in 24/25 compared with 23/24 by: 1. Reduced Cemetery receipts - £535 2. Reduced Grant income -£300 3. Reduced VAT refund - £1255 Residual - increase 1%
4	Staff Costs	9960	9529	-431	4%	No	
5	Loan interest/capital repayments	0	0	0	0%	No	
6	Total other payments	12311	10578	-1733	14%	No	
7	Balances carried forward	53576	59657	6081	11%	No	

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8	Total Cash and Short Term Investments	53576	59657	6081	11%	No	
9	Total Fixed Assets and Long Term Investments	31011	30913	-98	0%	No	
10	Total Borrowings	0	0	0	0%	No	

This report is intended as a guide to the variances you may need to explain. The specific requirements vary between external auditors so please check the requirements shown on the pro forma provided to your council

Please note a breakdown of approved reserves will also be required if the total reserves (Box 7) figure is more than twice the annual precept value (Box 2)