

## Explanation of variances

Name of smaller body: Fawkham Parish Council

The 'Practitioners' Guide' provides guidance on explaining significant variances. Please provide full explanations, including numerical values, for the following:

variances of more than 15% between totals for individual boxes (except variances of less than £200);

if the total reserves (Box 7) figure is more than twice the annual precept value (Box 2).

Section 2	2014/15	2015/16	Variance	Variance	Detailed explanation of variance (with amounts £)
	£	£	£	%	
<b>Box 2</b> <i>Precept or Rates and Levies</i>	£8,750	£12,250	£3,500	40%	The Parish Council set a higher precept for the financial year 2015/16 than the year before in anticipation of additional one-off costs relating to the need to replace the two Parish Council noticeboards and the planned purchase of an automated external defibrillator to be located in the parish, plus uncertainty around the potential cost of the May 2015 elections. Council minute 08/2015 refers.
<b>Box 3</b> <i>Total other receipts</i>	£841	£1,834	£993	118%	The Parish Council received a grant from Sevenoaks District Council of £1,000 towards the cost of acquiring the Automated External Defibrillator, as well as funding from the Department for Communities and Local Government of £328 to cover the extra costs of complying with the Transparency Code for smaller councils.
<b>Box 4</b> <i>Staff costs</i>	£5,329	£6,245	£916	17%	During the year the Parish Council agreed to pay the Clerk for hours that he had worked in excess of contracted hours, since his appointment. That payment amounted to £1,121.
<b>Box 5</b> <i>Loan interest/ capital repayments</i>	£0	£0	£0	0%	n/a
<b>Box 6</b> <i>All other payments</i>	£3,969	£7,450	£3,480	88%	One-off costs were incurred in respect of the first replacement noticeboard (Cheque number 546 £1,329), the automated external defibrillator (Cheque number 571, £1,718), and the purchase of replacement tables on behalf of the village hall (Cheque number 575, £497).
<b>Box 9</b> <i>Total fixed assets &amp; long term investments &amp; assets</i>	£234,067	£236,729	£2,662	1%	Change in value of assets is attributable to the replacement of an old noticeboard with a new one, and the addition of an automated external defibrillator and housing box to the list of assets.
<b>Box 10</b> <i>Total borrowings</i>	£0	£0	£0	0%	n/a
<b>Explanation for 'high' reserves</b>	Box 7 (balance carried forward) is not more than twice Box 2 (precept).				