

Explanation of variances 2023/24 – pro forma

Name of smaller authority: Dalston 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

	2024	2023	Variance £	Variance %	Explanation Required?		DO NOT OVERWRITE THE BOXES HIGHLIGHTED IN RED/GREEN	Explanation (must include narrative and supporting figures)
	£	£			Is > 15%	Is > £100,000		
1 Balances Brought Forward	144,240	84,161					Explanation of % variance from PY opening balance not required - Balance brought forward agrees	
2 Precept or Rates and Levies	85,758	81,674	4,084	5.00%	NO	NO		
3 Total Other Receipts	61,315	95,020	-33,705	35.47%	YES	NO		In the year to 31 March 2023 other receipts included a legacy of £54,609. The following items occur in the year to 31 March 2024: Building Society Interest rates increased and the amount of interest earned in 2024 was £3,264 more than in 2023. In 2024 there was more income earned in the cemetery. There were 6 more gravespaces sold and 8 more permits for headstones than in 2023 which resulted in £7,494 increased income for the cemetery over 2023. Grants were received of £1,500 towards the cost resurfacing the cemetery paths, and £5,258 towards installing new seats in the parish.. We received 3rd party insurance proceeds of £2,590 to repair the tarmac and tend scorch damaged trees which resulted from a car catching fire and burning out in one of the car parks in the village. Rental income increased by £463 following the annual rent review. The parish receives an annual community donation from a Solar Farm which increases annually by inflation. The amount received this year was £819 more than last year. Last year grants and donations towards Queen Elizabeths Platinum Jubilee celebrations were £1,000 with only £350 being received this year for King Charles coronation events.
4 Staff Costs	32,994	30,548	2,446	8.01%	NO	NO		
5 Loan Interest/Capital Repayment	8,660	8,660	0	0.00%	NO	NO		
6 All Other Payments	154,068	77,407	76,661	99.04%	YES	NO		The legacy received in 2023 year of £54,609 was paid over to the Dalston Parish Charitable Trust, which is a registered charity, in Decemeber 2023. They are to administer the legacy in keeping with the will. £19,280 was spent to retarmac the paths in the cemetery, this compares to only £7,168 spent on paths and turfing the previous year. Two delibrators were bought at a cost of £2,247 and £600 was spent to mark out disabled parking bays in the village car park.. £2,331 was spent repairing tarmac at one of the village car parks damaged by a burnt out car. Cost savings were made of £2,122 on property maintenance. Problems with the drains was now resolved. The grass cutting contract price is index linked to RPI. Due to the high inflation level the price for 2023/24 was £2,191 more than the previous year. When the insurance cover was renewed the premium increased by £423 which was as a result of us having 3 war memorials insured. A section of road was repaired at a cost of £1,950. The local council highways department denied responsibility for this piece of highway at the time. They have now accepted responsibility for this piece of road and we are currently in correspondence with their insurers to obtain recompense for the cost. Legal fees of £1,194 were paid in the year to registr the title of property with The Land Registry. Storm Isha at the start of the year caused damage to trees which required £920 of tree surgery work to make them safe.
7 Balances Carried Forward	95,591	144,240	-48,649	33.73%	YES	NO		The legacy received in 2023 of £54,609 was transferred to the Parish Charitable Trust. Against this is the surplus of income over expenditure for the year of £5,721
8 Total Cash and Short Term Investments	112,361	167,708	-55,347	33.00%	YES	NO		The difference is accounted for by the payment to the Dalston Parish Charitable Trust of a legacy of £54,069 received in the year ended 31 March 2023
9 Total Fixed Assets plus Other Long Term Investments and Assets	512,882	507,726	5,156	1.02%	NO	NO		

10 Total Borrowings

68,893

75,637

-6,744

8.92%

NO

NO

