

Explanation of variances

Insert name of smaller authority: **North Stainley with Sleningford 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	2015/16 £	2016/17 £	Variance £	Variance %	Detailed explanation of variance (with amounts £)
Box 2 <i>Precept or Rates and Levies</i>	8,738	11,143	+2,403	+27.5	The precept was set for the year in anticipation of rising costs particularly in staffing and grass cutting. Grass cutting rose from £3,705 to £4,800; staffing costs only went up by £59.39 over the year, but we were without a Clerk for four months and the budget for 2017-18 staffing is £2,849.
Box 3 <i>Total other receipts</i>	2,807	2,124	-683	- 24.3	The NYCC grass cutting grant reduced from £710.46 to £526.99, and there was no support for the village newsletter (from £203.96 in 2015-16). But the main difference is in VAT reclaimed, falling from £1,371 to £990)
Box 4 <i>Staff costs</i>	1,981	2,048	+67	+3.4	n/a
Box 5 <i>Loan interest/ capital repayments</i>	0	0	0	0	n/a
Box 6 <i>All other payments</i>	10,684	9,806	-878	-8.2	n/a
Box 9 <i>Total fixed assets & long term investments & assets</i>	39,154	39,154	0	0	n/a
Box 10 <i>Total borrowings</i>	0	0	0	0	n/a
Explanation for 'high' reserves	n/a				