

Explanation of variances

Name of smaller authority: **SWETTENHAM PARISH COUNCIL**

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

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);
- a breakdown of approved reserves if the total reserves (Box 7) figure is more than twice the annual precept/rates & levies value (Box 2).

Section 2	2016/17 £	2017/18 £	Variance £	Variance %	Detailed explanation of variance (with amounts £)
Box 2 <i>Precept or Rates and Levies</i>	3743	3743	0	0%	
Box 3 <i>Total other receipts</i>	2275	1960	-315	-14%	<p>2016/17 £2275 made up as follows: Transparency Code Funding £1604 Cheshire East Council Additional Grant of £85 was paid in 2016/17 but is no longer available Burial Fees £278 Memorial Fees £51 VAT Refund £256 Bank Interest £1</p> <p>2017/18 £1960 made up as follows: Transparency Code Funding £437 (website hosting and staffing costs) Burial Fees £1180 Memorial Fees £221 VAT Refund £121 Bank Interest £1</p> <p>At the time of setting the Annual Budget, the Council cannot know whether there will be any Burial or Memorial fees for the coming year – these figures are variable from year to year. The VAT refund is applied for every 3 years unless the amount of VAT exceeds £100. The Transparency Code funding was available for website hosting and staffing costs</p>
Box 4 <i>Staff costs</i>	2063	2516	453	22%	The variance in staffing costs is partially website staffing costs (paid through the Transparency Fund) and partially a salary review for the Clerk resulting in an increase in the grade from NJC LC1 Point 15 to Point 20 (£8.72 to £10.10 per hour)
Box 5 <i>Loan interest/ capital repayments</i>	Nil	Nil	Nil		
Box 6 <i>All other payments</i>	3919	2298	1621	-41%	The decrease is explained by the purchase in 2016/17 of a number of Council assets (website, laptop, printer) using Transparency Code Funding. No assets were purchased in 2017/18

Box 9 <i>Total fixed assets & long term investments & assets</i>	9907	9907	0	0%	
Box 10 <i>Total borrowings</i>	Nil	Nil	Nil		
Explanation for 'high' reserves	<p>Box 7 is more than twice Box 2 because the authority held the following breakdown of reserves at the year end:</p> <p>Not Applicable</p>				