

Rushmere St Andrew 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 an INCOME and EXPENDITURE basis.

| Box No. | Description | 31/03/2025 £ | 31/03/2026 £ | Variance £ | Variance % | Explanation Required? | Notes |
|---------|----------------------|-----------------|-----------------|---------------|---------------|--------------------------|---|
| 1 | Balances brought fwd | 346260.69 | 332256.73 | | | | BALANCE B/F AGREES |
| 2 | Annual precept | 126300.00 | 136200.00 | 9900.00 | 8% | No | |
| 3 | Total other receipts | 98320.08 | 116128.08 | 17808.00 | 18% | Yes | <p>The Council received £17,808 more income than in the previous financial year. This increase was primarily due to higher grant funding of £37,697, an additional £2,482 in dowry payments from East Suffolk Council relating to land transfers, £500 in allotment deposits, and £312 more in interest income.</p> <p>These increases were partially offset by reductions in other income streams. Cemetery income decreased by £20,708, allotment income fell by £154, Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) receipts were £2,021 lower, and donations were £300 less than in the previous year.)</p> |
| 4 | Staff Costs | 77516.55 | 50677.01 | -26839.54 | 35% | Yes | <p>The former Clerk left the Council in June 2025. The Assistant Clerk was subsequently promoted to the role of Clerk and appointed on a full-time basis, increasing from 130 hours per month to full-time hours. The Assistant Clerk position remains vacant and has not yet been filled. Amounts are set out in the attached schedule.</p> |

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|---------|--|-----------------|-----------------|---------------|---------------|--------------------------|---|
| 5 | Loan interest/capital repayments | 10665.30 | 0.00 | -10665.30 | 100% | Yes | In the previous financial year (24-25) the last PWLB loan payment of £10,665 was made. This was for a repayment of £10,410 + interest = £10,665. This payment was made on 10/05/2024. The PWLB loan has now been repaid and that explains the difference in payments. |
| 6 | Total other payments | 150442.19 | 135662.50 | -14779.69 | 10% | No | |
| 7 | Balances carried forward | 332256.73 | 398245.30 | 65988.57 | 20% | Yes | No explanation needed on variance. List and amounts of earmarked reserves in attached schedule. |
| 8 | Total Cash and Short Term Investments | 326270.16 | 379372.77 | 53102.61 | 16% | Yes | No explanation needed on variance. |
| 9 | Total Fixed Assets and Long Term Investments | 195820.00 | 203529.00 | 7709.00 | 4% | No | |
| 10 | Total Borrowings | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 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)