

**BRADLEY STROKE TOWN COUNCIL
2013-14 EXPLANATION OF SIGNIFICANT VARIANCES**

| Financial Year | 2012/13 | 2013/14 | Variance (+/-) £ | % Variance | Explanation required | Detailed explanation of variance for items in excess of 15% |
|--|------------|------------|---------------------|---------------|---|--|
| Box 1 Balances B/FW/D | £782,613 | £694,115 | -£88,498 | -11.31% | N/A | |
| Box 2 Precept | £792,571 | £717,434 | -£75,137 | -9.48% | Less than 15% therefore detailed explanation not required | Reduction due to the 2013/14 tax base reduction (662 band D equivalent properties) |
| Box 3 Total Other Receipts | £135,590 | £200,526 | £64,936 | 47.89% | More than 15% therefore detailed explanation required | The increase is mainly due to The Local Council Tax Benefit Grant (received for the first time in 2013/14) which is now separated away from the precept payment for accounting purposes = £48,416. Another factor is the substantial increase in youth grant and SLA income following the development of Bradley Stoke Town Council's youth provision = £21,946. The balance is due to an increase in hire income from 3 Activity Centres = £21,877 and an increase in bank interest = £1350. These income uplifts were then reduced by the 2012/13 figures which included £27,000 for granted assets which did not apply for 2013/14. Please refer to the attached schedule - page 1 |
| Box 4 Staff costs | £291,408 | £328,689 | £37,281 | 12.79% | Less than 15% therefore detailed explanation not required | Due to the employment of a Casual Leisure Assistant (variable hrs) & a Youth Participation Worker (29 hrs p/w wef 7/1/13) which was previously funded from Sth Glos Council Service Level Agreement. The Street Cleansing Operative's hours were also increased from 16 to 37 hrs p/w in May 2013 and a 1% JNC national pay increase was also awarded in 2013/14 which impacted. |
| Box 5 Loan Interest/Capital | £24,593 | £26,049 | £1,456 | 5.92% | Less than 15% therefore detailed explanation not required | Minimal uplift relates to capital paid and interest paid & accrued for the Public Works Loan which commenced in February 2012 to fund a new office build. 2013/14 is the 2nd full year of payments. See the attached schedule - page 3 |
| Box 6 Other payments | £700,658 | £480,700 | -£219,958 | -31.39% | More than 15% therefore detailed explanation required | The 2012/13 office build and refurbishment costs of £203,483 within planned projects is the main reason for the reduction as this was completed in June 2012 and such expenditure did not apply within the 2013/14 accounts. The actual variation across the year within planned projects, after other costs are taken into account = -£197,225. The remaining £22.7k reduction is below the 15% threshold but is mainly due to the reduction in new assets which included a £16.3k reduction in playground equipment expenditure in 2013/14 caused by the inclusion of a granted play area at Baileys Court Activity Centre within the 2012/13 figures = £26k whilst the 2013/14 figures amounted to £9.6k for the installation of new flooring for 2 play areas. Please refer to attached schedule - page 12 |
| Box 7 Balances C/FW/D | £694,115 | £776,637 | £82,522 | 11.89% | N/A | |
| Box 8 Total Cash and Investments | £704,629 | £771,322 | £66,693 | 9.46% | N/A | |
| Box 9 Fixed Assets & Long Term Assets | £4,035,224 | £4,045,243 | £10,019 | 0.25% | Less than 15% therefore detailed explanation not required | |
| Box 10 Total Borrowings | £213,598 | £191,754 | -£21,844 | -10.23% | N/A | |

Note:

Council are advised of the previous years budgets when the next budgets are being discussed and all items of Income/expenditure are individually specified for Council's approval before the final budgets are set.

Council receive an up to date budget report at each Finance meeting which details the actual position of Income/expenditure against individual budgets.

Prepared by - Rachel Pullen (RFO) 10/6/14

Signed



Dated 25.06.14

Signed



Date 25-06-14