

	2024/25 £	2025/26 £	Variance £	Variance %	Explanation Required?	Explanation from smaller authority (must include narrative and supporting figures)
1 Balances Brought Forward	64,748	97,439				
2 Precept or Rates and Levies	282,430	292,167	9,737	3.45%	NO	
3 Total Other Receipts	13,557	32,375	18,818	138.81%	YES	In 2024/25, other receipts excluding the precept totalled £13,557.81, comprising VAT reclaim income of £9,484.81, landlord contributions of £3,419.00, and refunds of £654.00. In 2025/26, other receipts excluding the precept increased to £32,375.39. This comprised ringfenced funding of £12,000.00 from the Durham Freeman Charity Trust for beacon events and lighting, £3,646.00 from Durham County Council for the Gilesgate duck pond project, landlord contributions of £6,962.00, VAT reclaim income of £7,654.87, bank interest and cashback receipts of £993.58, and refunds / pre-application income of £1,118.94.
4 Staff Costs	73,948	77,018	3,070	4.15%	NO	
5 Loan Interest/Capital Repayment	0	0	0	0.00%	NO	
6 All Other Payments	189,348	230,909	41,561	21.95%	YES	A new Business Events Grant Scheme was introduced during 2025/26 with total payments of £14,830.00, which did not exist in the previous financial year. Additional investment included £2,000.00 towards ShopWatch radios, £7,045.00 towards improving the River Wear, and major community event expenditure of £5,000.00 for Durham Pride, £5,000.00 for Durham Fringe Festival, £2,500.00 for VE Day events, £2,000.00 for the Festival of Remembrance, £1,600.00 beacon lighting costs, £1,500.00 Regatta support, £550.00 music events and £242.00 VJ Day event costs. Environment expenditure also included £3,043.40 for bulbs, £3,016.00 for fruit trees, £2,500.00 solar panel grant support, together with further planting and grounds maintenance costs. Neighbourhood Warden payments increased from instalments of £834.00 in 2024/25 to £1,084.60 in 2025/26, while enhanced policing and Operation Lentil payments continued throughout the year. There were also higher costs for subscriptions, councillor training, software licences, room hire, printing, postage and administration.
7 Balances Carried Forward	97,439	114,054				
8 Total Cash and Short Term Investments	97,439	114,054				
9 Total Fixed Assets plus Other Long Term Investments and Assets	15,651	15,901	250	1.60%	NO	
10 Total Borrowings	0	0	0	0.00%	NO	