

2025-2026 Precept Explanation of Variances

To further develop the residents understanding of the increase in precept from 2024-25 to 2025/26 the detail below supports the summary that was included within the published Precept Demand Supporting Statement.

The increase in General Administration costs was as a result of:

- Staffing levels and associated on costs reflecting the need for cover of sickness and absence, administrative support for the Clerk and Village Hall bookings.
- Training budget for new councillors
- Supporting the funding of a Community Special
- Inflationary factor to ensure utility increased costs were covered.
- Compensation for potential loss of income from the hall hire whilst the renovation works take place

The council has strengthened its **General Reserve** position to ensure that costs from government salary increases, associated back dated costs are held separately. **Earmarked Reserves** are held/or identified to fund areas associated with the extensive renovation/restoration of the Village Hall, public conveniences and a grant to support the Museum.