



Department for  
Communities and  
Local Government

**Department for Communities and Local  
Government**

2nd Floor NE Quarter Fry Building  
2 Marsham St  
London  
SW1P 4DF

Cathryn Filbin  
email

Fax: 020 7035 0018  
Email: [sophie.bixby@communities.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:sophie.bixby@communities.gsi.gov.uk)

[www.gov.uk/dclg](http://www.gov.uk/dclg)

Our Ref:3595731  
Your Ref:

Date:**23 January 2018**

Dear Ms Filbin,

Thank you for your email of 14 December regarding local elections in Chorley.

If Chorley council were to pursue the option of deferring the 2019 elections by Order under section 87 of the Local Government Act 2000, a case would need to be submitted directly to the Secretary of State as soon as possible to allow sufficient time to make the necessary Order. However, due to current pressures on Parliamentary time, we are unable to offer any guarantee that there will now be sufficient time to make the Order; or if it will be possible for the Secretary of State to defer the 2019 elections in Chorley.

Unfortunately there are no set criteria for deferring local elections, as each case is considered individually on its merits. A formal request would need to be made to the Secretary of State setting out the council's request and its reasons for requiring the change. The Secretary of State would then decide whether to proceed and if he chose to do so would begin the formulation of the necessary Order.

I hope this information is helpful.

Yours Sincerely

Sophie Bixby