

Section 62A of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990

Designation Notice

On 19 October 2022 the Secretary of State laid before Parliament a document setting out the criteria for designation and de-designation under section 62B of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (“the designation criteria”). Neither House of Parliament resolved that the designation criteria should not be approved within the 40-day period referred to in that section.

On 6 July 2023, the Chief Planner wrote to Chorley Council to advise that the Council was at risk of designation for quality of decision-making for applications for major development, based on data for the two year period ending on 31 March 2022 and subsequent appeals decisions to 31 December 2022.

The designation criteria states that the Secretary of State will aim to decide whether any designations should be made in the first quarter of each calendar year, based on the above assessment period. On this occasion, it was not possible to make designation decisions in the first quarter of the calendar year. However, the designation criteria states that, exceptionally, designation decisions may be made at other times.

Paragraph 20 of the designation criteria states that the assessment period for quality of decision making is the two years up to and including the most recent quarter for which data on planning application decisions are available at the time of designation, once the nine months to be allowed for beyond the end of the assessment period is taken into account.

Subsequent to the letter of 6 July 2023, two additional sets of data have been published by the Department. In applying the designation criteria, the Secretary of State has considered the data for the most recent period available which is the two year period ending on 30 September 2022 and subsequent appeals decisions to 30 June 2023.

The Secretary of State, in exercise of the powers conferred by section 62A of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990, and by reference to the designation criteria mentioned above, considers that there are respects in which the local planning authority specified below are not adequately performing their function of determining planning applications for planning permission for major development under Part 3 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 and therefore, it is appropriate to make the following designation:

Chorley Council in respect of applications for planning permission for major development.

Duration of designation

This designation has effect from 09:00 on 19 December 2023 and shall remain in force until revoked.

Signed by authority of the Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities and
Minister for Intergovernmental Relations



19 December 2023
Date

Lee Rowley MP
Minister of State for Housing, Planning and Building Safety
Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities