Sale and lease provisions for properties with swimming pools commence on 29 April 2015 – don’t leave it until the last moment

What’s new or changing
- From 29 April 2015 properties with a swimming pool that are to be sold or leased must have a certificate of compliance.

What this will mean for your council
- Councils will experience an increase in requests for certificates of compliance for swimming pool barriers.
- Councils should ensure that they have adequate resources available to meet the increase in demand.
- Councils are encouraged to promote awareness of the sale and lease provisions within their community, the legal fraternity, real estate agents and conveyancers.

Key points
- Anecdotal evidence from councils suggests that a very high percentage of pools fail the first inspection.
- It can take up to 90 days before a child resistant barrier is brought up to standard and a certificate of compliance can be issued.
- Councils are encouraged to be pro-active and liaise with local solicitors, real estate agents and conveyancers regarding swimming pool compliance.
- Councils are encouraged to ensure that they have appropriate systems, processes and resources in place to respond to inspection requests from property owners.
- The NSW Government is working with Royal Life Saving NSW to promote pool safety through the public ‘Be Pool Safe’ campaign. This campaign aims to help reduce child death and injury by promoting both pool barrier inspections and adult supervision of children. From November 2014 there will be more ‘Be Pool Safe’ messages in the community.
- Royal Life Saving NSW has developed a range of resources for councils to use as part of the ‘Be Pool Safe’ campaign. Royal Life Saving NSW will provide more information which will be sent directly to Councils in early November 2014.
- The Building Professionals Board is establishing a new category (E1) of private certifier to enable suitably qualified people to complete a course and
offer a swimming pool barrier inspection service. This will complement council inspections and increase the number of people who can conduct swimming pool inspections and issue certificates of compliance.

Where to go for further information

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