



## **BUILDING SERVICES**

### DOCUMENT TITLE

## **SWIMMING POOL SAFETY POLICY**

<b>ISSUE</b>	<b>DATE</b>	<b>CHANGE</b>	<b>APPROVED</b>	<b>REVIEW</b>
A	3/10/2000	Initial Issue	3/10/2000	3/10/2003
B	13/9/2004	Review	30/9/2004	30/9/2007
C	26/6/2008	Review	28/7/2008	28/7/2011
D	10/2/2014	Review & amend	24/2/2014	10/2/2017

**Produced by  
Building Services for  
Mitchell Shire Council**



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## 1 Introduction

- 1.1 This policy sets out the approach which Mitchell Shire Council will take to create community awareness and acceptance of the requirements for swimming pool safety, and to take enforcement action where necessary.
- 1.2 This Policy seeks to assist increasing community awareness associated with swimming pool safety.

## 2 Policy

- 2.1 Council will take the following three pronged approach:

### 2.2 Education

- 2.2.1 Council will make available to the community sufficient information for persons to understand the legal requirements, owners' responsibilities and reasons for those requirements through the following:
  - (a) Posting of the Policy, information and appropriate links on Council's website
  - (b) Distribution of a pamphlet form of the Policy to all service centres and libraries available to the public in addition to child care centres and pool shops who can make provision for such promotional material
  - (c) Preparation of an annual media release and article in corporate publications
  - (d) Enforcement action will be publicised to create greater public awareness of the consequences for non-compliance

### 2.3 Proactive

- 2.3.1 To increase the level of compliance of swimming pool safety within the shire, Council will:
  - (a) Maintain a database of all known existing swimming pools/spas within the municipality
  - (b) Have an annual rolling program of inspections of those swimming pools/spas
  - (c) Annually publicise that Council has a proactive program of conducting inspections
  - (d) Utilise an Inspection Checklist with regard to Regulations

- (e) Have a subsequent follow-up program where non-compliances are established
- (f) Ensure adequate resourcing for the rolling program of inspections

## 2.4 Reactive

2.4.1 In accordance with legislative requirements, the Municipal Building Surveyor, upon becoming aware (by any means) of any domestic swimming pool within the municipal district that does not have the required barriers, will take immediate action to bring about compliance.

## **3 Enforcement**

3.1 Council will:

- (a) Inspect a minimum of 70 properties with domestic swimming pools each year, and ensure compliance of those properties with pool fence regulations
- (b) In carrying out inspections, the attached “Pool Enforcement Action Flow Chart” will be followed

## **4 Reporting**

4.1 Annual reporting on the outcome of the domestic swimming pool safety program will be prepared and can be provided to Council upon request.

## **5 Policy Implementation and Review**

5.1 This Policy will be communicated to the relevant internal Council Departments.

5.2 This Policy will be maintained and implemented by Council’s Municipal Building Surveyor and the Building Department.

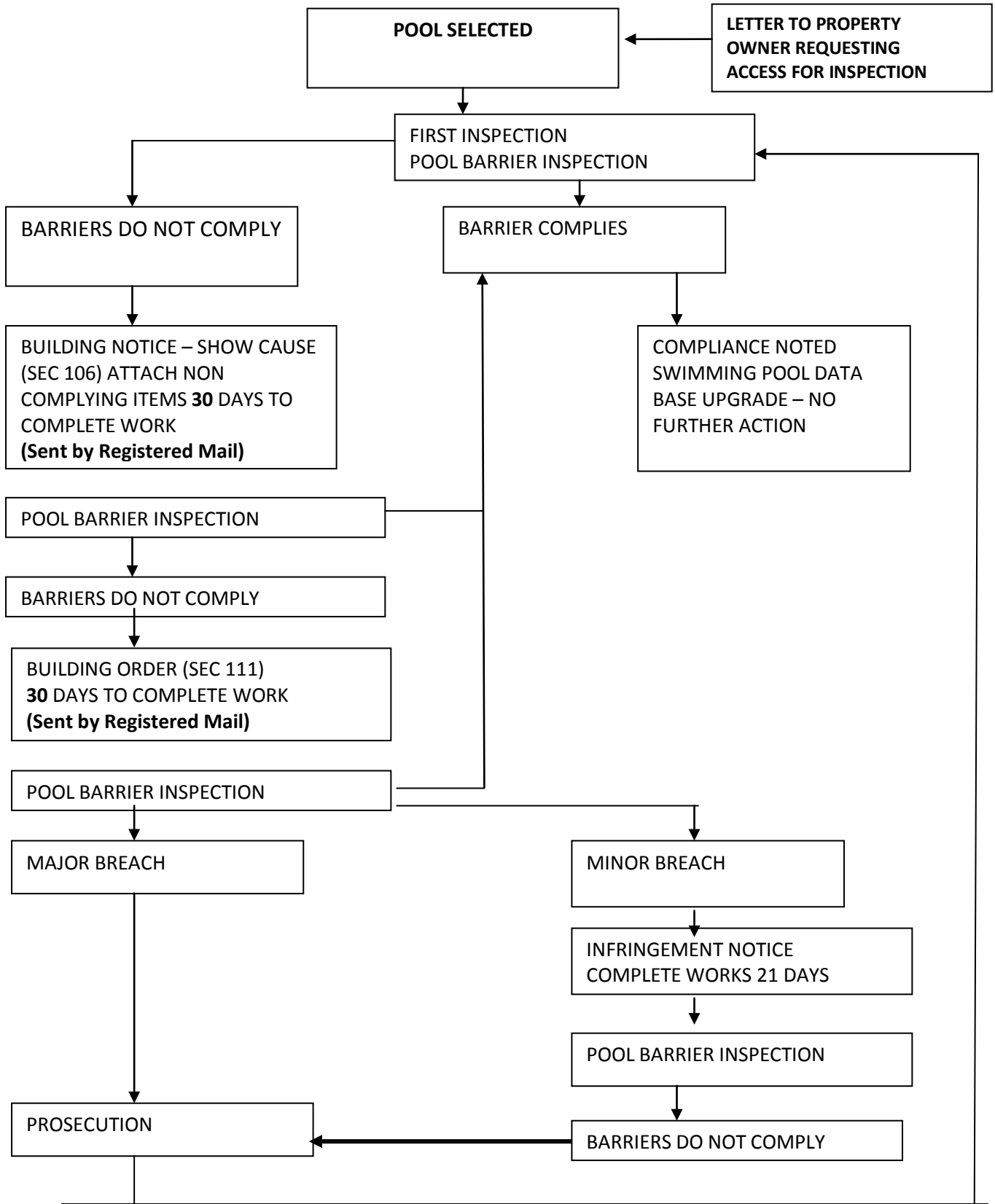
5.3 This Policy may be varied by Council and shall be reviewed by 10 February 2017.

## **6 Reference Documents**

- *Building Act 1993*
- *Building Regulations 2006*
- *Building Code of Australia*
- AS 1926.3—2010 Swimming Pool Safety  
(all as amended from time to time)

**Appendix 1 – Flow Chart**

**POOL ENFORCEMENT FLOW CHART  
S230 Building Act 1993  
AS 1926.1**



POOL BARRIER INSPECTION – Notice of entry in accordance with Section 230 of the Building Act must be provided to the occupier when carrying out an inspection.