

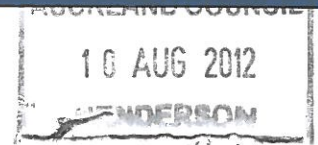


## Office of Hon Maurice Williamson

**MP for Pakuranga**

Minister for Building and Construction  
Minister of Customs

Minister for Land Information  
Minister of Statistics



8 AUG 2012

Mr Bob de Leur  
Manager Policy, Training and Resolutions  
Auckland Council  
Private Bag 92300  
AUCKLAND 1142

Dear Mr de Leur

Thank you for your letter dated 29 June 2012 regarding proposed changes to the Fencing of Swimming Pool Act 1987 (Act) and New Zealand Standard 8500.

I would like to thank the working party for the significant amount of work they have undertaken to produce a draft "Safety of Swimming Pools Act" and a draft revised version of New Zealand Standard NZS 8500. I remain committed to reviewing the Act and these documents are a very valuable step in this process.

These documents will assist the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment (formerly the Department of Building and Housing) progress the policy process necessary to amend the Act. As a first step in that process, my officials will commence work later this year on a draft discussion document for Cabinet to consider.

I have asked my officials to include the working party in the consultation process for the development of the discussion document.

I was pleased to note that the Pool Code of Practice for use in the Auckland region is working well and has made the role of enforcing the legislation simpler for both the Council and pool owners.

I would appreciate your passing on my thanks to the working party for developing the draft "Safety of Swimming Pools Act" and a draft revised version of New Zealand Standard NZS 8500.

Thank you for taking the time to write.

Yours sincerely

Hon Maurice Williamson  
**Minister for Building and Construction**