

To the Chairman of the Select Committee

Date: 18 November 2015

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Subject: Addendum to the Swish Submission - Building (Pools) Amendment Bill

Home-pool drownings in 0-4 age group in home pools

Australian data (Source: RLS AUS 2006-2015):

Total 0-4 age drownings all locations 2015 = **26**

Total 0-4 age drownings in pools 2015 = **14**

Therefore % of 0-4 age drownings attributed to home pools $\approx 54\%$ ($14 \div 26$)

Total drownings (all ages) in home pools 2015 = **32**

Therefore 0-4 age group represent **43.375%** of total **home-pool** drownings ($14 \div 32$)

Total 0-4 drownings in home pools 10-year average \approx **16 pa**

Therefore total 0-4 age-group drownings in home pools in 10 years \approx **160**

New Zealand data (Source: Water Safety New Zealand 2005-2014 actual):

Total child drownings at all locations 10 year average = **12 pa (TBC)**

Therefore, total child drownings in all locations in 10 years = **120 (TBC)**

Total 0-4 drownings in home pools 10 year average = **2.1 pa**

0-4 age-group drownings in home pools in 10 years = **21**

Comparison per million population

Australia (23.5 million population) \approx **6.8**

New Zealand (4.3 million population) \approx **4.88**

Or, in the **0-4 age group** who have drowned in home pools, for every **10 New Zealand children**, approximately **14 Australian children** have drowned.

Note: Contrary to recent emotive news media reports and despite the advised Australian focus on all home pools being separate from the dwelling and “ring fenced:”

The Australian 0-4 drowning rate in home pools per head of population is approximately **40% higher** than the drowning rate in New Zealand.

Email 18 November to: Scot Simpson
Cc: Local Government Environment

Date: 18 November 2015

Addendum to Swish submission - Building (Pools) Amendment Bill

Hi Scott

Further to my email of the 4 November 2015 in which we advised of emotive media reports from people who should know better, we have developed the attached summary of drowning statistics to help clarify the current situation...

So further to our Open Letter to the Pool Industry which also discussed these emotive statements, we are pleased to provide a report comparing home pool drownings in both Australia and New Zealand... The continued research effort has been necessary because of regular broadcast such as the following:

<http://www.radiolive.co.nz/Pool-fencing-rulrs-to-be-relaxed/tabid/506/articleID/106901/Default.aspx>

Meanwhile, we continue to look forward to the Select Committee Hearings...

Regards

Les

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