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Page 1 of 1

STATEWIDE



Pressure for mandatory inspections

SAFETY experts have accused the State Government of ignoring calls for mandatory inspections of backyard pool fences.

Leader Community News launched a campaign last summer urging the government to overhaul outdated pool fencing laws and require mandatory inspections of barriers to ensure they were safe.

Following the campaign, the government agreed to review the rules and is now proposing to get tougher and require all pool owners to fully fence their pool.

Currently, older pools do not have to have a dedicated fence and can rely on self-closing house doors and windows as barriers.

The Victorian Swimming Pool and Spa Safety Committee, representing industry groups, is urging the government to introduce mandatory barrier inspections to compel homeowners to comply with barrier maintenance.

Life Saving Victoria spokesman Paul Shannon said the government should commit to mandatory barrier inspections for home pools every three years and on sale or lease of a property.