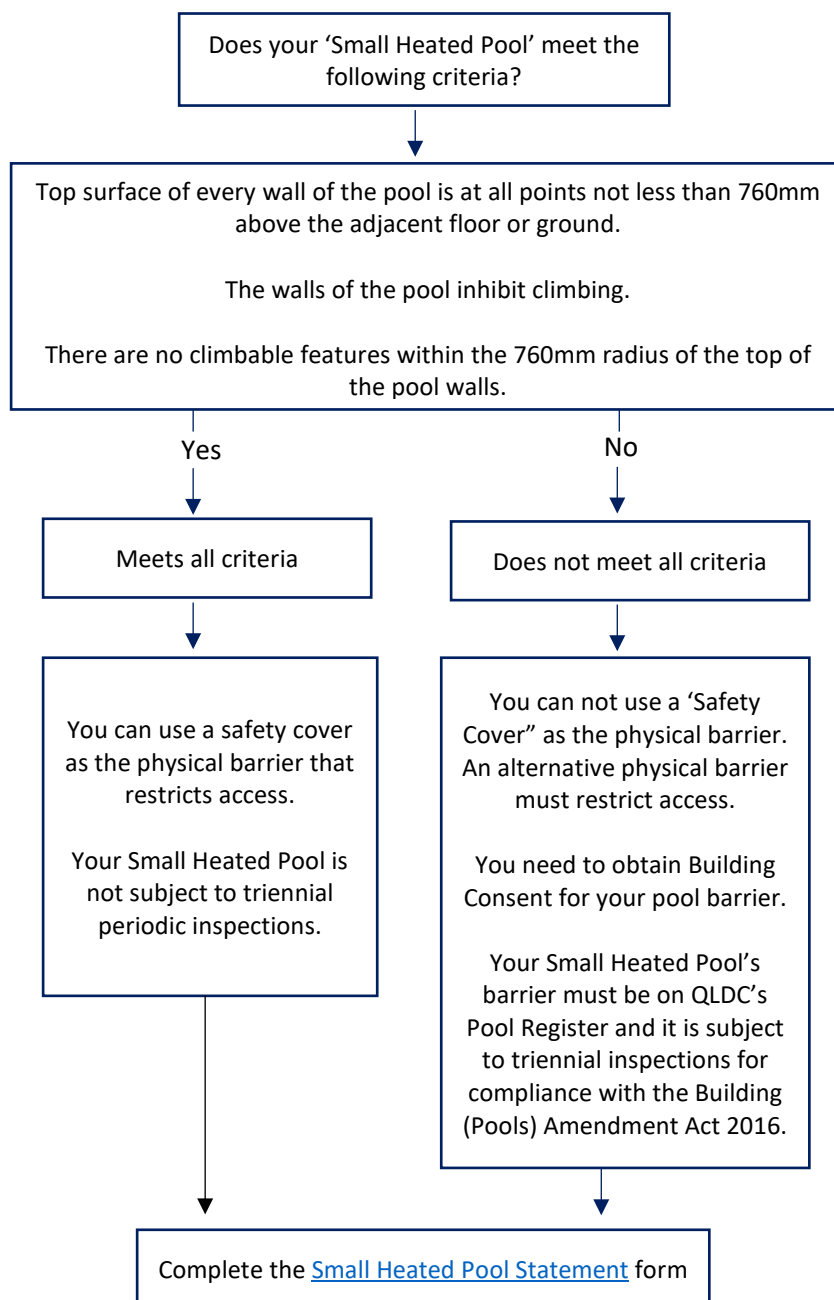


Is my spa pool compliant and does it need to be inspected?

If your spa pool/hot tub:

- has a water surface area of 5m² or less; and
- is designed for therapeutic or recreational use; and
- can hold a maximum depth of water of 400mm or more (and has any depth of water in it)

it is legally classified as a 'Small Heated Pool' and must have physical barriers that restrict access to it by unsupervised young children.



What is a 'Safety Cover'?

For a cover to be deemed a 'safety cover', it must:

- Restrict the entry of children when closed (i.e. held in place with straps fitted with lockable snap fasteners or metal padlocks).
- Be able to withstand a reasonably foreseeable load (i.e. capable of supporting a vertical point load of 20kg).
- Be able to be readily returned to the closed position.
- Must have signage indicating its child safety features (i.e. signage that states 'WARNING: This spa pool cover must be kept locked except when under adult supervision' fixed on two opposite sides of the cover).

I can not use a 'Safety Cover' to restrict access to my Small Heated Pool. What are the requirements for my alternative barrier?

The barrier that restricts access to your Small Heated Pool must achieve the Performance Criteria of New Zealand Building Code (NZBC) Clause F9 (Restricting Access to Residential Pools). Please see the MBIE website for Acceptable Solutions (F9/AS1) to comply with this clause: [F9 Restricting access to residential pools](#).

Please note F9/AS1 is not the only way in which you can achieve compliance with the Performance Criteria of F9, but a Territorial Authority (QLDC) must accept a barrier constructed in accordance with F9/AS1 as achieving the Performance Criteria of F9.

If you would like to use an alternative solution to comply with F9 (i.e. have a barrier that is not in accordance with MBIE's F9/AS1) you are entitled to do so but you will need to demonstrate to us how you are achieving the Performance Criteria of F9.

Who can I contact for any questions?

If you have further queries or would like to speak with someone about meeting your obligations, you can email swimmingpools@qldc.govt.nz or call the building line: 03 450 0369.

Please also see our website for further information: [QLDC Residential swimming and spa pools](#)