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| Health Improvement Policy BranchRoom C4.22Castle BuildingsStormont EstateBelfast BT4 3SQEmail: jenny.mcalarney@health-ni.gov.ukDate: 6 January 2017 |

Dear Consultee

**CONSULTATION ON REGULATIONS TO INTRODUCE RESTRICTIONS ON SMOKING IN CARS CARRYING CHILDREN**

The Department of Health would like to seek your views on draft regulations to introduce restrictions on smoking in private vehicles when children are present.

The *Smoke-free (Private Vehicles) Regulations* will extend the existing smoke-free legislation by setting out the circumstances by which private vehicles must be smoke-free. They also allow the use of fixed penalty notices for offences in smoke-free private vehicles and name both the Police Service of Northern Ireland and district councils as enforcement agencies for these measures.

**Responding to the consultation**

This consultation exercise gives you the opportunity to comment on these legislative proposals. The consultation document is available on the Department’s website:

<https://www.health-ni.gov.uk/consultations>. A hard copy, or a copy in a different format, can be obtained by contacting the telephone number provided below.

Please ensure that your completed questionnaire includes; your name, organisation (if relevant), address, email address (if available) and telephone number, and whether your comments represent your own view or the corporate view of your organisation.

**The closing date for comments is 5pm on Friday 3 March 2017**. Responses received after this date will only be considered in exceptional circumstances and with prior agreement from the Department.

You should return your response by email or post to the following address:

PHD Administration Team

Room C4.22

Castle Buildings

Stormont Estate

Belfast

BT4 3SQ

Email: phdconsultation@health-ni.gov.uk

Telephone: 028 9052 2059

Following consideration of consultation responses, the Department will finalise the regulations for commencement during 2017.

Yours faithfully

**Jenny McAlarney**

**Health Improvement Policy Branch**