

SFAC Party Conference Brief September 2014

Protect Children from Smoking in Cars Let Parliament Decide Before the Next Election



Smoking in Cars Harms Children

- Children are particularly vulnerable to second-hand smoke, as they have smaller lungs, faster breathing and less developed immune systems
- Smoking near children can cause illnesses such as asthma and bronchitis. Secondhand smoke causes 9,500 hospital stays by children each year, and about 40 sudden infant deaths
- A 2010 survey of children aged 11 to 15 showed that about one in five was often exposed to second-hand smoke in cars
- The British Lung Foundation has calculated that about 185,000 children are exposed to smoke in cars, every day or most days
- Stopping smoking in cars with children present is supported by children and parents. Polls show 86% of children want action to protect them from cigarette smoke in cars. 86% of parents, including most parents who smoked, backed the policy in a BLF/Mumsnet survey
- In January this year, MPs voted by an overwhelming majority to give the Government powers to bring in the policy by Regulations
- But time is running out if Parliament is to get the chance to vote on Regulations before the next General Election

Act now to stop children from being exposed to dangerous secondhand smoke in cars

Tell your MP that you want Parliament to vote on the Regulations before the next Election

For more information go to: www.smokefreeaction.org.uk or
<http://www.blf.org.uk/Page/Smoking-in-cars>