

## Help stop campaign groups targeting Israeli visitors – write to your MP!

Recently, an arrest warrant was issued for Israeli Opposition leader Tzipi Livni by an English Magistrates' court. She was due to visit the UK, but cancelled her trip.

Owing to a legal loophole, anyone can apply for an arrest warrant. In this case, the warrant was applied for by anti-Israel campaigners. It's since emerged that Hamas were backing these campaigners.

This is not the first time that Israeli guests have been targeted in this way. The Jewish community has been campaigning to close the legal loophole since 2005. The Government added 'safeguards' to stop the law being abused, but the Livni case has proved that these safeguards do not work.

The Government has apologised to Tzipi Livni and publicly promised that it will urgently find a way to prevent other Israeli guests being targeted in this way in the future. However, this is likely to require a vote in Parliament to change the law.

### Write to your local MP

If there is a Parliamentary vote, the support of MPs will be crucial. Both supporters and opponents of a law change are contacting politicians to make their feelings known. So we are calling you – and anyone who wants to stop the targeting of Israeli visitors by Hamas and its supporters - to write to your MP.

To find your MP's details, look at the MP-locator in the top right of [www.fairplaycg.org.uk](http://www.fairplaycg.org.uk) Make sure your letter is calm, concise and accurate. If you need more information, contact [response@bod.org.uk](mailto:response@bod.org.uk) or 020 7543 5445 – also let us know what response you get from your MP.

This is only the first stage of our campaign – there may be more campaigning actions in the new year.

### Points to make (Please use your own words!)

- Ask your MP to sign **Early Day Motion (EDM) 509** on Tzipi Livni.  
(If your MP is a Government minister, they cannot sign EDMs. Instead, draw their attention to the EDM)
- Explain the situation with Israeli Opposition leader Tzipi Livni.
- More situations like this will diminish the UK's ability engage in the Middle-East Peace Process.
- Also it diminishes Jewish life in the UK when Jewish charities, synagogues etc can't invite Israeli guests to their events without threat of arrest.
- The current legal situation with these arrests is an anomaly; Anyone can go to a magistrate with very weak evidence and a warrant will be granted. This means anyone with a political agenda can prevent Israelis from coming to the UK.
- Hamas had admitted that it is working to support legal cases against Israelis in the UK. Surely the law was not designed to allow terrorist organisations to harass their targets?
- The Government has said that it will change the rules to prevent this abuse recurring, and the Conservative Party has said it would support such a change.
- **Ask your MP to support a change in the law to stop this abuse.**
- **Ask your MP to send a copy of your letter to the Foreign Secretary and the Minister of Justice, and ask for the ministers' and MP's comments.**