

Letters: It is not Justin Welby's job to meddle in Britain's immigration policy

Plus: healthcare reform; schools during Covid; where HS2 should have started; sharing bathwater; and an early audition by Michael Gambon

By Letters to the Editor

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SIR – The Archbishop of Canterbury would be well advised to spend his time sorting out the problems of the Church instead of getting involved in politics ([“Braverman refuses talks with Welby over migration”, report, September 30](#)). There are many parishes throughout the country with no parish priest, for instance.

Archbishop Welby is responsible for the well-being of this nation's Christian heritage. He needs to put that at the forefront of his activities.

Jeremy Cridlan

Beverley, East Yorkshire

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SIR – If I were Suella Braverman I would not want to speak to the Archbishop of Canterbury.

He has a very poor record and has damaged the Church of England for those of us who are regular worshippers.

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Sarah Duncan-Brown

Lee-on-the-Solent, Hampshire

SIR – Instead of asking to meet the Home Secretary, Archbishop Welby should ask himself a few questions, such as: why do large numbers of people want to come to Britain and not remain in one of the safe countries that they pass through en route? How does he expect Britain to cope with this pressure when its limited resources – including the NHS, housing and education – are already stretched to the limit?

Stephen Bartlett

Kirk Ella, East Yorkshire

SIR – Your report (September 30) carries the headline: “Net migration to surpass 1m for the first time”.

It’s comforting to know that the Conservatives have taken back control of our borders as they promised, otherwise this figure could have been much greater.

Peter Wickison

Driffeld, East Yorkshire

SIR – The current spat between the Church of England and the Government over the question of immigration highlights the need to reconsider the constitutional position of the Church.

The impending general election provides the major political parties with an opportunity to include in their manifestos a commitment to formally review the situation during the next parliament.

Our state-sponsored Church has a General Synod with the power to propose law; it also has 26 reserved seats in the House of Lords, and its head takes precedence over the Prime Minister. Few countries in the developed world retain such a system.

A disestablished Church of England would be more inclined to focus on its core role of supporting parishes, rather than meddling in politics. It could, however, retain a leading role in state ceremonial events, if this was the wish of the Sovereign.

Ian Graham

Carlisle, Cumbria
