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PUT A SOCK IN IT, LINEKER!

Tory MPs enraged as BBC star signs luvvies' letter attacking Rwanda policy – on eve of Commons showdown over flights

By Jack Hardy and Harriet Line

GARY Lineker has ignited another BBC impartiality row after he signed an open letter criticising the Government's Rwanda policy.

In a move that threatens to further embarrass his employers, the Match of the Day host has publicly endorsed calls for the policy to be scrapped.

Lineker's intervention prompted an outcry from politicians exasperated by his posturing, with one telling him: 'Put a sock in it.'

The pundit is among a host of celebrities who have put their names to the letter from campaigners Together With Refugees. It is designed to pressure MPs on the eve of a crunch parliamentary vote on the policy.

Actors Brian Cox, Juliet Stevenson and David Morrissey, as well as Kaiser Chiefs musician Simon Rix, are among more than 30 people to sign the letter. Others include Unison union boss Christina McAnea and leaders of several faith groups.

The letter describes Britain's refugee system as 'ever-more uncaring, chaotic and costly' and accuses the Government of 'trying to banish people fleeing persecution to Rwanda'.

Addressed directly to the country's 'political leaders', it says the Government's policies

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