

River Thames

All Party Parliamentary Group

Proposed and prepared by Stephen Good Chair of Development River Thames Alliance - 01993 851 586 steveg@easy.com



Teresa Pearce MP for Erith and Thames Mead

Labour Party

"I fully support proposals put forward by the Royal Borough of Greenwich to transform the Thames Path, and I would urge constituents to vote in this poll. The Thames Path has fantastic views of the river, and with the right funding it could be made into a bustling route and a place for residents to enjoy."



Jon Cruddass MP for Dagenham and Rainham

Labour Party

(Co-Founder of All Party Parliamentary Angling Group)

"While we fight to get through the recession today we look to what the borough could do tomorrow. We have large pieces of land by the River Thames that need to be used for things that will benefit local people and the local economy"



Barry Gardiner MP for Brent North

Labour's Shadow Floods Spokesman

Barry Gardiner joined John Timms MBE of the Brent North Flood Working Group for a visit of Thames Water's Mogden Sewage Works plant to learn about Thames Water's sewage and flood management systems and to discuss solutions to flooding issues in Brent North.



Rushanara Ali M.P. for Bethnal Green and Bow

Labour Party

Rushanara Ali MP, Shadow Minister for International Development joined Islamic Relief last week to show her support for their efforts in providing emergency relief for the victims of the Pakistani floods last month.



James Gray M.P. For North Wiltshire

Conservative

Member of the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Committee for the 2005 Parliament,

Chairman of the Conservative Rural Action Group (2002–2005).

Former special advisor to the Secretary of State for the Environment Michael Howard, and to his successor John Gummer.



Andrew Smith MP for Oxford East

Labour

Oxford East MP Andrew Smith said of recent flooding in Oxford:
‘The Environment Agency, City Council and Emergency Services have done a good job’



Alok Sharma MP for Reading West

Conservative

Alok Sharma wrote to every household in Purley ward with a flood survey and to distribute flood information from the Environment Agency. After speaking to government ministers on the issue of flooding and the price of flood insurance. Alok welcomed the announcement that the government has reached an agreement with the insurance industry, which will guarantee affordable flood insurance to flood-prone areas in Reading



Ruth Cadbury MP for Brentford & Isleworth
(including Chiswick, Osterley, Hounslow)

Labour

‘Building higher walls will not, by itself, protect our towns. We need flood prevention as well as flood defense’

Ruth Cadbury MP has been selected to join the Women and Equalities Select Committee



Gareth Johnson MP for Dartford

Conservative

‘Because of the proximity of the road to the Thames no one is ever going to be able to guarantee it is going to be flood-free but these measures will make flooding far less frequent and this is to be welcomed.’



Kelly Tolhurst MP for Rochester and Strood

Conservative

Speaking of Liz Truss Minister The Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, Kelly Tolhurst MP said:

‘It was fantastic to have the Minister Liz Truss join us in Wouldham to talk to our hardworking local farmers about the issues which matter to them. Our rural communities deserve a strong voice to represent them in Parliament’



Mark Field MP for Cities of London and Westminster

Conservative

Question

“To ask the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs what research she intends to carry out in the next 12 months to determine whether the Thames Barrier is sufficiently able to protect London in the event of a tidal surge”.



Stephen Metcalfe MP for South Basildon and East Thurrock

Conservative

We all know that a new crossing of The River Thames is needed but not at the proposed locations, but if they do go to the next stage we must be ready.

East Thurrock MP Stephen Metcalfe and Dartford’s Gareth Johnson, put forward their views on River Thames Crossing to David Cameron .



Dame Margaret Hodge MP for Barking

Labour

Dame Margaret Hodge MP, Chair of the Committee of Public Accounts, said:

“5 million properties in England - one in six - are currently at risk of flooding. The annual cost of flood damage is at least £1.1 billion and ageing defences and climate change will increase that bill. So flood protection is a national priority.



Fiona Mactaggart MP for Slough

Labour

November 2015 - With Slough being in the top 50 places for flood risk in England and Wales*, Slough MP Fiona Mactaggart is backing the Environment Agency’s campaign to increase awareness about risks of flooding and action that can be taken to prepare. Fiona said, “Many constituents have been in contact with me since the floods last year, letting me know of the damage that flooding can cause.



Jim Fitzpatrick MP for Poplar and Limehouse

Labour

Member of the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Committee.

The Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Committee questioned local representatives and Environment Agency top executives on recent flooding in the UK.



Nicola Blackwood MP for Oxford West and Abingdon

Conservative

“Yet again this winter my constituents struggled not only with the destruction of river flooding, but with the revolting effects of foul-water flooding and inadequate drainage. Not only does the flooding lead to chaos for families when their homes are at risk but it also brings our economy to a standstill when businesses, roads and vital services are forced to close”.



Tania Mathias MP for Twickenham

Conservative

“I appreciate my hon. Friend giving way. Does he agree that in his constituency, like mine, we know that the response to flooding may be good, but constituents in our areas are concerned about prevention and action on prevention?”

In reply: Kwasi Kwarteng Conservative, Spelthorne

My hon. Friend is right. The steps that the Government have taken towards preventing flooding in our areas in the Thames valley have been impressive. There has been a commitment to a flood defence scheme. Obviously, more could be done. Discussions are being held about funding and about the balance—how much should be contributed by central Government and how much by local government. That is a legitimate debate.

River Thames Riparian Honourable Members holding Ministerial positions unable to join the group but have expressed support for its establishment are:

Rt. Hon. David Cameron Prime Minister - MP for Witney & West Oxfordshire

“Dear Stephen Good,

Thank you very much for the letter on behalf of the River Thames Alliance about the forming of a River Thames Parliamentary Group. I look forward to hearing about the first River Thames Parliamentary Group Meeting. Please do keep me updated, ”



Teresa May MP Home Secretary
and Member of Parliament for Maidenhead

Conservative

Having asked local residents for their views, Theresa pressed the relevant agencies on issues including the lack of dredging along the Thames, the need for Thames Water to develop a long term plan to deal with flooding on a wider scale, and the need for clearing of drains and ditches. Theresa said: *“I am very grateful to all the local residents who got in touch with me to pass on their comments and suggestions. It is important that we learn from what happened earlier in the year to ensure that we can reduce flood risk in the local area, and respond better when it occurs. I’ve received commitments from the Environment Agency, Thames Water and local councils, and I will continue to monitor their action to make sure they put these into practice.”*

