**10 April update**

Hello.

I’ve chosen to come down to the riverside in Bridge Ward for this update. Of the many unique features the City of London has as a major financial and business centre, the Thames riverside is certainly one of them.

I want to cover 2 things in this update – the results of the survey I conducted last month and the Riverside strategy consultation which is underway at the moment.

First to the survey – the response rate was 8% - thanks for sharing your views.

The big issues raised centre on traffic, congestion, road safety and commuting. Most people feel safe in the city, say it’s clean and feel that the Corporation are quite effective in solving problems, although a third didn’t have any information on which to judge! In terms of what people would like to see – less traffic, easier access to the river and more open spaces were mentioned most often.

Specific improvements ideas covered traffic calming measures on side streets and a few major roads, more open green space to eat lunch outside and imaginative thinking about Lower Thames Street, which is of course an incredibly busy road which cuts right across the ward. London Bridge was also mentioned for unsafe paving and being in need of better cleaning.

I have a meeting with Michael Wellbank, who chairs the City’s Planning & Transportation Committee, on 14 April so will share these points and seek a view from Michael.

The second item for this update is the consultation on the City Corporation’s Thames strategy where comments are invited by 30th April.

The strategy looks forward to 2026 to identify issues the river might face and discusses the issues and challenges. For the section that includes Bridge Ward, the focus is centred on the river enhancing the City as a business location through commercial rather than residential development, more inclusive use of the riverside space with better walkways, more open spaces plus potential re-opening of Swan Lane pier by Fishmogers’ Hall.

What would you like to see happening along the river?

To help I’ll frame up some questions and send a short survey that I can use to comment of the draft. I’ll get this round in the next weeks or so.

If you’d like more details about the riverside strategy or you’ve got a view or a thought to share please get in touch via my website - or share it via Facebook or twitter.

Until next time, goodbye.