The Park Phase 1 opened in 2017 and is accessed via Castle Square. Currently the park provides:

- A public open space with mature trees and an undulating ground of lawn and meadows, attracting visitors to use it as a new space in Elephant & Castle for relaxing strolling, sitting, playing, visiting, educating and learning;
- Children's play with a mixture of play challenges, including climbing structures, slides, ropes and ladders and a sandpit; and
- A flexible performance space that serves as a resource for local schools and community groups to use for meetings, events and learning.

The park is currently locked at night on the advice of the council and police. When the second phase of the park opens, the park will be fully open at all times, with no fence or gates other than to protect people from ongoing construction activities.

The Park Phase 2 is scheduled to open in the second half of 2020.

The proposals for Park Phase 2 will follow the design framework that was established through consultation for Park Phase 1.

This stage of design development will consider three key areas; The Gateway, Play and The Grove.

We have hosted a series of free events in the park and are planning many more over 2019. You can find out more about the events on our website.

The Park Phase 1
We are keen to get your thoughts and ideas on three key areas:

- **The Gateway**: this area is a place of transition from the bustle of Sayer Street and its new retail offer, to the park. A place to meet, it is sunny, artistic and high impact.

- **Play**: the play facilities will be quirky and fun, active and naturally playable, for little and big kids, accessible for all ages.

- **The Glade**: a quieter space, a place to retreat and recoup, enjoying nature and the shade of the existing trees sat below them or within the canopy in a tree house.

The three geographic areas have been highlighted above and will be subject to further detailed design over the coming months.

Existing design framework:

a. **Rain gardens**: sustainable urban drainage features that allow rainwater to leech into the ground, reducing the burden on sewers.

b. **Pathways**: direct pedestrian paths on key desire lines.

c. **Meandering footpaths**: a more relaxed way to enjoy the park.

d. **Existing trees**

e. **Undulating lawn**

f. **Planted beds**

g. **MP4 resident garden**