The Primer (2017) introduces the concepts behind the Lea River Park. The creation of the Primer was supported by the local boroughs and key stakeholders and is intended to act as a reader, distilling the previous ten years’ work to provide the overall conceptual guide to the park, its distinct characters and development context.

The Design Framework (2007) established a commonly shared vision and set of objectives between a wide range of partners and set out the overarching vision for the park, including strategies for land acquisition which have allowed the establishment of much of the Leaway route.

The Manual is a design guide, establishing a common framework of reference for the delivery of the Leaway. A palette of materials, street furniture and finishes have been described that are intended to give level of continuity across the series of diverse spaces that will form the park.

The Leaway creates for the first time a continuous route between Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park, the Thames and the Royal Docks by opening up the edges of the River Lea to pedestrians and cyclists.

Extensive public engagement has focused on building a support community as an ‘invitation to the valley’. A Curatorial Strategy - by Create London - identifies the key artifacts and narratives that underlie the park. These themes are broad and include maritime endeavor, industrial development, revolutions in public health, social struggle and emancipation, immigration, creative energy, agricultural innovation and environmental change.

Nature & Food - workshop carried out by CREATE with artist Gayle Chong Kwan exploring the flora and fauna of the River Lea and the potential for foraging. Image © Emil Charlaff

Young people performing at ‘The History of Grime ‘ organised by Create and Spotlight Youth Cress. Image © Emil Charlaff

A public guided walk along the Leaway route. Image © Michael Traynor

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