Covid-19
Health Based Place of Safety (HB POS) Response
HB POS

• Dedicated 5 bed unit for assessments of patients detained under S135 and S136 for the 2 local boroughs

• Opened end January 2020 so only a few weeks in before the pandemic

• Initially only 3 rooms commissioned
Response

• Capacity increased to use of all 5 rooms
• 2 security staff on every shift to assist
• 4 regular staff per shift
• Joint planning of isolation spaces
• A new crisis assessment centre was set up and running within 3 weeks to further divert patients from A&E
Staff training and support

• All staff trained for PPE
• Staff supported by booking local accommodation
• Sufficient PPE stock including FFP3
• Clear flow charts printed and laminated in the unit explaining how to don and doff & how to isolate patients safely
• Weekly reflective practice to help manage staff anxiety
Patient management

• Patients explained need for isolation
• Patient’s mental state and their capacity to make decisions were considered
• Peer support worker
• Segregation if necessary (in line with Trusts’ Restrictive Practice and Seclusion Policy)
• Staff advised to call police if patient had capacity but not compliant
• All rooms and spaces were deep cleaned after patient transfer/discharge