

Case Study

Rapid premises adaptations create a COVID-19 HOT Hub



South Liverpool Treatment Centre (SLTC) opened in May 2011. The building is part of Liverpool & Sefton Health Partnership (LSHP) LIFTCo estate, with property management services provided by the gbp partnerships manage team.

In late February 2020, Mersey Care NHS Foundation Trust were advised that they were to provide testing facilities for suspected COVID-19 patients. In response to this, the IV Suite within SLTC was converted into four separate Assessment Pods.

Once lockdown was announced in late March, guidance changed, and Liverpool CCG working with SLTC Head Tenant, CHP, decided that SLTC would become a “Hot Hub” for patients with COVID-19 symptoms.

A self-contained suite of clinical rooms on the upper ground floor of SLTC were adapted to accommodate the needs of a “Hot Hub”, with areas of the large car park specifically designated for red and green patients. The map below shows these areas in place:



Working with the local LIFTCo, Liverpool & Sefton Health Partnership, a range of works were carried out to turn SLTC into a ‘Hot Hub’ for patients with COVID-19 symptoms:

- ✓ An existing IV Therapy Suite converted into four Covid-19 Assessment Pods and a staff office.
- ✓ New signage installed to influence patient flow.
- ✓ Perspex screens installed on each reception desk for safety of staff and visitors.
- ✓ Removal of waiting area furniture to aid social distancing.
- ✓ Creation of designated car parking (UK Parking Control, parking management system suspended).
- ✓ Intercoms installed at each entrance for easy communication with patients.
- ✓ Implementation of extra cleaning services and sanitisation stations.
- ✓ Mobilisation of extra security services.
- ✓ PPE issued to all staff.
- ✓ Two further emergency evacuation points created.



During the works, SLTC remained open and continued to offer limited services for green patients (non COVID) including phlebotomy, treatment rooms, urgent podiatry, and anti-coagulation clinics. With the co-operation of tenants, these services were relocated from Garston Suite to other clinical zones around the building, observing social distancing 2m rules and by appointment only. The two GP Practices and child immunisations continued in the GP area, by appointment only. The pharmacy on site also remained open.

The works to turn the South Liverpool Treatment Centre (SLTC) into a COVID-19 HOT Hub were substantial and carried out at short notice. The building has been easily able to accommodate significant short-term premises adaptations with an eye on what longer term and perhaps permanent changes may be needed.