



PRIME MINISTER

ROYAL REHABILITATION CENTRE SYDNEY

I am very pleased to announce that a re-elected Coalition Government will contribute to the care and rehabilitation of people with significant disability and injury in New South Wales by providing a capital funding contribution of \$12 million directly to the Royal Rehabilitation Centre of Sydney.

This will allow the centre to expand its capacity to provide highly specialised physical rehabilitation services and additional supported accommodation for patients.

The Royal Rehabilitation Centre is acknowledged locally, nationally and internationally as a leading specialist centre, providing substantial rehabilitation services to people with brain injuries, spinal cord injuries and other illnesses or who are living with a long term disability.

This funding will be a contribution towards the cost of building additional supported accommodation places in the in the redeveloped Centre which will replace the existing Weemala accommodation. It will ensure that the new centre can provide at least 30 supported accommodation places to continue to meet the needs of people with disability and brain injury in NSW.

The funding will also provide a contribution towards additional specialist equipment for the treatment of people with severe injuries in the centre's specialised Brain and Spinal Injury Units, adult and aged care multi-disciplinary rehabilitation services and pulmonary rehabilitation services.

The funding will be provided directly to the Board of the Royal Rehabilitation Centre on the condition that the state government commits to provide sufficient operational funding for the ongoing cost of the additional supported accommodation beds and rehabilitation services for patients treated at the Centre.

A further condition of the funding will be a requirement for the board to ensure that the redevelopment of the site is planned and built to in such a way as to ensure that all non-hospital traffic is directed in and out of the site via Victoria Road and that only hospital-related traffic enters and exits the site from Morrison Road or Charles Street.

I am very pleased to be able to provide this important contribution. As a result of our strong Budget position, the Government is able to ensure that those in most need have appropriate, well-funded care.

29 October 2007