

New rehab service launched at centre

The first clients of the recently launched new Neurobehavioural Rehabilitation Service at Royal Rehabilitation Centre moved in on Monday.

The service is a partnership between the Royal Rehabilitation Centre and the Brain Injury Rehabilitation Trust in the United Kingdom and will work with slow-to-recover clients.

Clients will have access to integrated therapies which focus on mobility, cognition, behavioural change and relationships, using both clinical and direct support staff.

The aim of the program is to reintroduce people back into the community and individual living, says Royal Rehabilitation Centre's CEO Stephen Lowndes.

On Monday the first seven clients, the majority of whom are from the young persons in respite program, were moved into their rooms in a converted wing at the Royal Rehabilitation Centre.

"There is still a way to go in developing the joint venture in terms of housing for this service," Mr Lowndes said.

"This is the launch of the program but not the completion."

Ultimately the service will operate from its own special purpose building. However until that is built, the centre is looking for a larger building to operate the service for 20 clients.



Royal Rehabilitation Centre's CEO Stephen Lowndes at the launch on Monday of the Neurobehavioural Rehabilitation Service with one of its first clients Daniel Suwitra. TWT on-the-spot PHOTO

One of the first clients to have access to the service is Daniel Suwitra, who at age 16 was in a motorcycle accident in Bali, which resulted in a brain injury.

He said he was looking forward to moving into the new facility.