

Ready for work

CHANGES to Australia's welfare system mean people with disabilities could be assessed as capable of working at least 15 hours each week.

Under the new laws which took effect on July 1, people who started receiving a Disability Support Pension from May 11 last year will be assessed for work readiness by Centrelink.

Victoria Lister, from Comepass Employment Services, said people with disabilities will be referred to a job network service where their skills and training needs will be assessed.

"We offer a fairly holistic service and we've just put on a psychologist to offer support to clients who may be struggling," Ms Lister said.

She said job networks could help eliminate concerns many employers face.

"Most people haven't really had to encounter disability and there's a fear factor unless there's been a history of disabilities," she said.

Comepass Employment Services will be open each Tuesday and Thursday at Sarina Russo Job Access at 38 Redland Bay Rd, Capalaba. Phone 3421 5500.



■ On course ... Brenda Harper and Brad Kelly are ready to help people with disabilities.

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Building supervisor John Paten received the premier award, the Blue Chip.

In announcing the award, joint managing director Graham Bell said: "John's unrelenting commitment to achieving the highest standards combined with excellent people and communication skills, are key reasons why he now oversees eight other building supervisors.

"His eagle eye for quality is also one of the reasons why he is in charge of inspections before homes are handed over to clients."

Another construction quality manager, Gavyn Combs, won the Top Building Supervisor Award.

Carinka Connew won Top Sales Consultant and contracts manager, Tony Ford the Extra Mile Award, for the team member who consistently goes the "extra mile" in ensuring everything is done to provide a quality product to Ausbuild's satisfied customers.



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