Prosthetic limbs specialist opens first satellite clinic in the North East

A newly launched prosthetics manufacturer and rehabilitation specialist has opened a North East satellite base to cater for demand from across the North.

Sheffield-based STEPS Prosthetics, which launched earlier this year, has established an outpatient clinic at Team Valley's family-run Neural Pathways centre which is rehabilitation clinic/gym space. The Yorkshire firm says it has seen UK-wide demand for its services and decided to open in the North East to provide better accessibility for its customers.

STEPS — set up by Colette Shaw and Peter Durkin — touts itself as the UK's only private prosthetics company to design, manufacture, fit and support amputee patients within a residential rehabilitation setting. It operates its own workshop, meaning clients benefit from the swift turnaround, tailored products and adjustment of their prosthetic or orthotic device.

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Ms Shaw has 20 years of experience in prosthetics including fitting the latest prosthetic products, including prosthetic product development and marketing with Steeper and Blatchford. She also offers expert witness advice within the field. And Mr Durkin dual practicing prosthetist/orthotist with more than 10 years' clinical experience following a career in glassblowing.

STEPS Prosthetics will provide prosthetic and orthotic services from the Gateshead clinic, working alongside the Neural Pathways clinical team. Many of the firm's clients have

suffered traumatic, life-changing injuries that come with complex rehabilitation needs that require more than just a prosthesis or orthosis — a supportive brace.

Ms Shaw said: "By having this additional clinic in the North East, we are able to give an enhanced level of service to clients, many of whom live in the North East area. We are delighted to be working with Neural Pathways and their therapy team to offer a comprehensive service to our clients closer to home."

Neural Pathways is a multi-disciplinary neurological rehabilitation company providing services across the North East, Scotland and Midlands. It provides rehabilitation for people of all ages with complex needs, including amputation, and their experienced team includes physiotherapists, occupational therapists and therapy assistants. Its Neuro Hub opened at Team Valley in November 2019.

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