

STAFF SUSPENSE

By JENNIFER O'CONNOR

PICKETS are to be placed outside Brothers of Charity premises across the city tomorrow over the continued suspension of 14 social care workers.

The workers were suspended after they refused to comply with the transfer of some of the service users and carers from the residential centre at Bawnmore to a commu-

nity setting.

"This is a very unfortunate situation but our members have been locked out for over a week now. We have repeatedly asked the Brothers of Charity to allow them back to work but they have refused to do so," Karan O'Loughlin the SIPTU branch organiser said.

"At a general meeting on Monday March 27, over 100 Brothers of Charity employees turned up in support of the 14 locked out workers. The general feeling at the meeting was that the lock-out is an outrageous way to treat employees in this day and age," she commented.

The workers refused to comply with the transfer because they said that no agreement on staffing levels for two of the houses had been agreed on. This, they said, left the houses in an under-staffed position.

Ms O'Loughlin lary workers fo locked out emp tomorrow.

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"Our key objec out workers bac ferences with the for meaningful r

The SIPTU led A representati comment on th Limerick Leader



John Lally, Lalco managing director, Friedrich Schaefer, Ireland area general manager for Hilton and Ian Wynne, Lalco Group operations manager pictured at the site of the new Limerick Hilton on the Ennis Road

150 new jobs for City at Limerick Hilton

By BARRY DUGGAN

LIMERICK is to get another 150 jobs before the end of the year when the city's newest hotel opens for business.

The seven story, 184 bedroom Limerick Hilton located at the corner of O'Callaghan Strand and Ennis Road is costing €55m to develop.

Lalco Developments and Hilton International are behind the venture. The hotel is part of a larger development which will include 137 deluxe apartments which will be released for sale in the coming weeks. Plans are also made for full underground parking.

The hotel overlooking the Shannon has a number of facilities designed specifically for "business, dining, wedding and gen-

eral accommodation markets".

The seventh floor boasts executive meeting rooms and lounges which will have the latest modern conference and break-out facilities.

A spokesman for the hotel said: "wireless internet is available throughout the hotel and each bedroom and executive room has been designed and laid out with the needs of the business user in mind."

Plans also include a large 130-seat restaurant, a cafe and hotel bar.

A health club will have a 20m pool, cardiovascular and resistance gym and a beauty spa and will be available to residents and members.

Developers hope to open the hotel before the end of the year.

"The hotel project gave Lalco a terrific opportunity

to regenerate a much-loved and key part of Limerick city's heritage," said John Lally, managing director of Lalco.

"The hotel formerly on the site was a fond part of many local people's lives and many visitors' memories. With the Limerick Hilton we are very proud to be able to bring back to Limerick city a top class hotel with modern and luxurious facilities," he added.

Friedrich Schaefer, area general manager for Hilton in Ireland, said: "The Limerick Hilton fits with our strategy of operating quality properties throughout Ireland. The high level of thoughtful and innovative design and a focus on additional features and facilities for all customers makes the standard of this hotel something that Hilton customers will appreciate and enjoy."

Kelly Social appeal is a

By LEADER REPORTER

SOUTHILL man, Anthony Kelly, spent Tuesday afternoon in court appealing a decision by the Department of Social Welfare who have denied him a disability allowance.

The Southill man claimed he was entitled to the weekly allowance of €165 despite the fact that he has spent over €100,000 since he sold his Fedamore home in June 2004.

Mr Kelly's Barrister, Andrew Sexton, told the Circuit Court that his client does not have assets or an income and that he cannot work, and so is therefore entitled to the allowance.

He said rumours of Anthony Kelly's past had "led the State to treat him in an unfair manner."

Speaking on behalf of the State, Mark Nicholas BL, told the court it was purely a social welfare case and that Mr Kelly "did not answer the questions sufficiently to allow this allowance".

Social Welfare Inspectors accept that Anthony Kelly has a disability and is unable to work. His injuries are as a result of gunshot wounds inflicted during a local dispute.

The Department's refusal to grant Mr Kelly a disability allowance centred on the sale of his house in Fedamore in June 2004 which Mr Kelly benefited from to the tune of €118,000.



On July Anthony Kelly €28,000 and dej a two week h Lanzarote. He p members of his accompany him

Mr Kelly t stand and told the summer of "a traumatic ti family" follov death of his former Michael Kelly.

After hearin Anthony Kelly sive holiday, Harvey Kenn "You're a very man, for a mai money."

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