

48 jobs to be created in treatment facility in Louth

THURSDAY, 19 MAY 2016: A picturesque 14th century castle in County Louth has been beautifully restored to house a state-of-the-art addiction treatment facility.

Castle Craig Ireland Ltd, trading as Smarmore Castle Private Clinic, plans to create employment for 48 people at the residential rehabilitation hospital in Ardee, County Louth. The Irish operation, a registered subsidiary of the Scottish-based Castle Craig Hospital Ltd, will act as an addiction treatment facility for UK, EU and Irish clients.

The company was introduced to Ireland through ConnectIreland, the company responsible for delivering the Government's 'Succeed in Ireland' initiative, as part of the Action Plan for Jobs, in association with IDA Ireland.

Today (Thursday), doors at the specialised care facility were opened to members of the local community. Renowned international consultant Psychiatrist, Professor Jonathan Chick, addressed attendees at the open day, before they were invited to view the grounds and the completed restoration work.

Co-founded by Peter and Dr Margaret Ann McCann, Castle Craig Hospital is one of Europe's leading rehabilitation clinics, providing inpatient treatment for people with addictive disorders.

The company chose Ardee for their first international treatment facility outside of the UK because of the availability of such a stunning location, skilled labour force and close proximity to the international airports at both Dublin and Belfast.

Peter McCann, a Trinity College Dublin graduate and co-founder of Smarmore Castle and Castle Craig Hospital said: *"We are delighted to be combining over 30 years of expertise and our high success rates in the field of addiction with the exceptional facilities here at Smarmore. We are committed to tackling alcoholism and drug addiction and the suffering it brings to families and we are committed to widening the range of treatment options for addictions in Ireland".*

Smarmore Castle will provide the services of an addiction treatment centre. Clients at the centre will enter treatment following medical and psychiatric assessment for a period of 4-6 weeks, undergoing medical detoxification and intensive psychotherapy. Assessments, family therapy and aftercare will also be provided.

Joanna Murphy, CEO of ConnectIreland, welcomed the announcement: "Not only has Smarmore Castle brought a huge number of jobs to the local area but they have also ensured that a piece of Irish history, this stunning 14th century castle, has been wonderfully restored and revitalised. This is a major boost for Ardee and we wish them every success in the future."

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****Images and further information available from <http://www.smarmore-rehab-clinic.com/media>**

About Castle Craig

Established in Scotland in 1988 by Peter and Dr Margaret Ann McCann, Castle Craig Hospital is a residential rehabilitation hospital which treats people suffering from alcohol and drug addictions,

many of whom have other complex illnesses. Castle Craig Hospital is one of Europe's leading rehabilitation clinics, providing inpatient treatment for people with addictive disorders. It is a medically managed rehabilitation clinic. <http://www.smarmore-rehab-clinic.com/>