

New Surgery will have 10 dentists

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A massive dental surgery is to open at Folkestone's new shopping centre, complete with 10 dentists. The operators of the surgery, Harley Dental Clinics, have applied to East Kent Primary Care Trust to take on NHS patients but have not heard back. However, they say they are hopeful of their chances of success.

With 10 dentists already confirmed, their full plans are for 24 dentists, giving ample room should they win the NHS contract. They are also intending to be open from 8am-10pm Monday to Friday, and eventually Saturdays. The brainchild of Dr Jostein Steien, the practice at Bouverie Place will be 12,000sq ft, and allow all forms of treatment under one roof. Dr. Steien said "I am from Sweden, I simply chose Folkestone because I fell in love with the area. It's also a very up-and-coming town with a lot of investment taking place. Although it is a corner of the UK it is still very



central to Europe and the high speed train link to London means Folkestone can only prosper."

Registration for private patients will begin on June 23. Fitting out is continuing at the moment. Dr. Steien added: "I have the greatest respect for the UK's NHS dentistry, I feel it is a wonderful concept and service. In an ideal world I would like to see every patient have access to an NHS practice and the benefits of modern dentistry."

Harley Dental Clinics run 15 surgeries across the country and the surgery in

Folkestone will start with 10 dentists and 3 hygienists.

Private firm CareCapital will rent, fit out and sublet the Bouverie Place site to Harley Dental. The intention is to open from 8am to 10pm, five days a week, and they are hoping for 24 dentists when running at full capacity.

It will feature two fulltime orthodontists as well as specialists in periodontal treatment (gums), endodontic treatment (root treatment), paediatrics, oral surgeons, dental implants as well as an in-house laboratory.