

Fastnet Fact Sheet 2018

Fastnet Structural and Improvement Works 2018-19.

This factsheet is intended to provide a brief summary of the works being carried out at Fastnet Lighthouse during 2018/19. There has been a Lighthouse on Fastnet Rock for over 160 years (see brief history below). During that time there have been many technological changes to the display

of the light and additional electronic Aids to Navigation have been added. The present works are part of the continuing investment programme of maintenance, upkeep and modernisation of our coastal services to the mariner.

The **visual appearance** of Fastnet will not be altered during these works and Irish Lights strategy includes ongoing provision of lighthouses and other visual and electronic aids to navigation.

The work on Fastnet consists of **structural repairs** which are necessary to ensure the metal lantern



room is properly secured to the granite tower and modernisation of the light source to an energy efficient rotating LED lantern. The LED light uses less than 30 Watts compared to the previous 1,000 watt lamps.

Following this work the **environmental footprint** of Fastnet will improve significantly with considerably reduced diesel generation requirements and removal of mercury from the station.

The Automatic Identification System and Radar Beacon will be replaced and a new Rotating LED Light will provide a clearer light and secure the reliable operation of Fastnet for the future. As recommended in the 2010 and 2015 Aids to Navigation Review the new light will have a range of 18 nautical miles. Fastnet is six miles from shore and the range of the new light will extend 9 miles beyond Mizen Head to the West and beyond Castletownshend to the East.

Irish Lights understands that Fastnet is important, not only as an Aid to Navigation, but as part of the **heritage** of the area and as a **tourism asset**. Following these works Fastnet will continue to be the iconic site it has been since a light first shone from the rock in 1854. Irish Lights has a proactive approach to community development of lighthouses for tourism through its Great Lighthouse of Ireland initiative see **www.greatlighthouses.ie**

Commissioners of Irish Lights

Mission: Safe Navigation at Sea.

Vision: To protect lives, property, trade and the environment by delivering next generation maritime services at the interface of navigation, engineering, technology and data management.

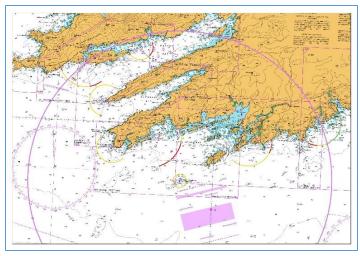
Fastnet After Completion of Project

Fastnet History - Key Dates

NEW ROTATING LED (LIGHT EMITTING DIODE) LIGHT LOCATED HERE TO AVOID ANY DETRIMENTAL WORKS TO CURRENT OPTIC RACON (RADAR BEACON) PROPOSED FOCAL PLANE EXISTING DOME ACCESS EXTENDED OVER 350° AND CLAMPED TO EXISTING HANDRAL AND FOOTRAIL NEW FALL ARREST ON EXISTING LADDER 8th FLOOR LANTERN ROOM MOTHBALLED EXISTING FRESNEL LENS TO REMAIN IN-SITU, BUT STATIONARY AND COVERED TO PREVENT FIRE RISK, MERCURY TO BE REMOVED BY SPECIALIST CONTRACTOR EMERGENCY BACK-UP LIGHT TO MAIN LIGHT LANTERN ROOM STRUCTURAL REPAIRS AS PER DETAIL ABOVE 7th FLOOR WELFARE FACILITY TO BE RETAINED MAGED HANDRAIL SECTIONS TO BE REPLACED ON A LIKE-FOR-LIKE BASIS AID TO NAVIGATION EQUIPMENT — BATTERY CHARGING, OPTIC CONTROL, AIS, RACON, DATAC, CABINETS 6th FLOOR PROPOSED BATTERY AND EQUIPMENT ROOM 5th FLOOR EXISTING BEDROOM TO BE RETAINED 4th FLOOR EXISTING BEDROOM TO BE RETAINED FIRE SEPARATION AND SUPPRESSION SYSTEM TO BE CONFIRMED 1st FLOOR 2 No. DIESEL GENERATORS AND FUEL TANKS TO BE RETAINED GROUND FLOOR ENTRANCE LEVEL. FUEL HOLDING TANK TO BE RETAINED PATHWAY TO FUEL STORE/HELIPAD EXISTING WATER TANK TO BE BE RETAINED PROPOSED SECTION THROUGH TOWER

For Further information or comment email navigation@irishlights.ie

Brief History of Fastnet. The lighthouse on Fastnet has provided a guide for mariners and been a part of West Cork's heritage **since 1854.** Key dates in the history of the station are set out below. Lighthouse established on Cape Clear 1854 Original Cast Iron Lighthouse on Fastnet. Cape Clear disestablished 1881 Calf Rock Cast Iron tower destroyed 1899 Commence construction of new Fastnet Bi Form Optic delivered to station 1903 (paraffin vapour light) 1904 Present Lighthouse on Fastnet Established 1969 Electrification (paraffin vapour discontinued) Fastnet. First scheduled helicopter 1969 relief in Ireland 1970 Explosive Fog Signal replaced by Electric 1989 Lighthouse Automated 1994 Radar Beacon (RACON) established Electric Fog Signal discontinued 2011 2011 Automatic Identification System (AIS) established MetOcean (Wind Speed) sensors 2015



established

Fastnet Lighthouse 18' Range.

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