



Commissioners of
IRISH LIGHTS | Navigation
and Maritime
Services

CANDIDATE BRIEFING PACK
Monitoring Systems Officer
Coastal Operations Department

Closing date for applications is Friday, 17 July 2026



The Commissioners of Irish Lights (Irish Lights) has responsibility under the Merchant Shipping Acts and the SOLAS Safety of Life at Sea Convention for the regulation of all marine Aids to Navigation (AtoN) around the island of Ireland and for wreck response outside of harbour areas. Irish Lights provides AtoN for general navigation and inspects and audits Local AtoN provided by Local Lighthouse Authorities (LLA) in ports, harbours and Local Authority areas, and ORE developments. Irish Lights is a statutory consultee under the Marine Area Planning, Foreshore and Planning Acts.

Irish Lights works closely with Trinity House (England, Wales, and Channel Islands) and the Northern Lighthouse Board (Scotland and Isle of Man) to deliver AtoN services. This close cooperation with Trinity House and Northern Lighthouse Board allows all three organisations to share resources and expertise for the benefit of all stakeholders.

In addition to our core statutory services Irish Lights uses its required reserve capacity to provide commercial and added value services to industry and serves coastal communities through initiatives such as Great Lighthouses of Ireland.



Monitoring Systems Officer Coastal Operations Department

Background to the role

Irish Lights provides General Aids to Navigation (AtoN) in accordance with International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS) requirements and International Maritime Standards.

Irish Lights monitors and analyses the performance of its network of General Aids via electronic system alarms. This includes Lights (lighthouse, buoy and beacon), RACONS, buoy positions and automatic identification system (AIS) AtoN and the verification of reported defects from vessels, the public or the Irish Coast Guard / HM coastguard in Northern Ireland.

Systems Monitoring is currently provided by an electronic software solution (Gatehouse). The Gatehouse monitoring system provides data which can be interrogated and analysed to help identify issues before an AtoN casualty or outage occurs. This facilitates review of all faults related to alarms for Lights (Lighthouse, buoy and beacon), RACONS, buoy positions and AIS.

Overview of Role

The Monitoring Systems Officer (MSO) is responsible for daytime monitoring, reporting and wider analysis of the Aids to Navigation (AtoN) monitoring and building management systems. They are also responsible for communicating with the Trinity House Planning Centre who provide centralised out of hours monitoring to Irish Lights. The role requires excellent technical, analytical, organisation and communication skills.

The primary function of the MSO is to support the broadcast of Maritime Safety Information (MSI) by Irish Lights to vessels at sea in a timely manner in the case of any suspected loss of service in any general AtoN, both monitored and unmonitored. The secondary function of the MSO is to analyse current and historical AtoN monitoring data to support the development of preventative interventions to avoid these outages occurring in the first place.

The primary function of the MSO involves alerting the authorised team members within the Navigation, Maritime and Consenting department (including the ship) to the presence of any suspected loss of AtoN, resulting from internal monitoring data or from external reports from vessels or members of the public to the Irish Lights dedicated monitoring number.

Once alerted, the next steps will be determined by the NMC employee responsible but additional duties of the MSO may include:

- 1) assisting with the preparation and formatting of a Radio Navigation Warning (RNW)/Whiskey Zulu (WZ) broadcast as a precaution
- 2) communicating with the Marine Rescue Coordination Centre (MRCC) Dublin and/or Belfast coastguard to request observation of an AtoN from a nearby vessel at sea
- 3) Assisting in the broadcast of other Marine Safety Information (including WZ and Navtext messages, as required)
- 4) Recording of times, decisions and actions taken and outcomes in the appropriate recording tool/document.



Overview of Role (contd.)

Once the MSI is broadcast, or separately in the case of preventative interventions, the secondary function of the MSO involves supporting the Navigation Services Manager (NSM), Electronic and Navigation Systems Lead (ENSL), Lighthouse Team Leads (LTL's), Support and Planning Manager (SPM), and the Operations Engineering Managers (OEMs) in fault identification, fault analysis and rectification of defects in the electronic Aids to Navigation (AtoN) Systems including reporting of corrective and future preventative actions in the case of all outages. Close liaison with the Irish Lights Design Team and Information, Communication and Technology (ICT) Department is also required to provide key feedback to help improve system design and performance. The MSO is based at Irish Lights' Headquarters in Dun Laoghaire, Co Dublin.

The MSO is an aids to navigation/monitoring systems and technical specialist role that requires ongoing development and upskilling to retain a high level of competence. The MSO will, where required, support the configuration and bringing into operational use of navigation equipment such as AIS, RACONS and AIS base stations in conjunction with the Navigation, Maritime and Consenting (NMC) and ICT Departments.

Accountabilities:

Systems Monitoring and Reporting

- Review and analyse monitoring system alarms for Lights (Lighthouse, buoy and beacon), RACONS, buoy positions and AIS AtoN to determine pre-failure indicators. Communicate recommended actions to the full team using a 1:Many email distribution, including NMC and CO.
- At the earliest opportunity, communicate all AtoN defects and potential AtoN outages to the NMC team member authorised to issue Maritime Safety Information messages on behalf of Irish Lights including reported outages from vessels via HM Coastguard and the Irish Coast Guard. Arrange observations as required and document and communicate the remedial actions that are planned to restore services, where appropriate.
- Ensure that the NSM is notified of restoration of AtoN to allow RNW to be cancelled and AtoN database to be updated accordingly.
- Ensure that all active observations, defects and/or outages are handed over to the out-of-hours monitoring support at the Trinity House Planning Centre and that all events handed over from the Planning Centre each morning are followed up.
- Support timely intervention of AtoN or monitoring system failure by close monitoring and escalating as above, where necessary. Pro-actively triage active alarms in electronic AtoN Systems in consultation with the NMC team member authorised to issue Maritime Safety Information messages on behalf of Irish Lights in the first instance. Where a doubt exists regarding the presence of an outage e.g. monitoring indicates a fault, but no observations is available to confirm, the authorised NMC team member will determine if an RNW/WZ is needed based on the volume of traffic and the degree of risk in the charted location.
- Update and utilise other electronic systems across departments to optimise the reporting and management of AtoN, such as the AtoN data base and works package Geopal.



Accountabilities (contd.):

Administration and System Oversight

- Maintain Monitoring logs and associated records to maintain an audit trail for effective AtoN monitoring with the primary goal that all AtoN outage periods are accompanied by the appropriate MSI.
- Maintain and administer Irish Lights procedures and manuals relating to AtoN Monitoring, including shared IL-TH monitoring Standard Operating Procedures.
- Act as key contact with the ICT Team for the adoption of “smart” monitoring solutions/systems to provide proactive alerts to CO, NMC and ICT users.
- Attend Quarterly Tri-GLA monitoring task group meetings to share information, review procedures and lessons learned as well as discuss opportunities or recommendations for service improvements.
- Support the implementation of the relevant Business Continuity Plans in the event of an incident or disruptive event.

Fault and Trend Analysis

- Report to monthly Availability & Outage meeting on the results of regular trend analysis using monitoring data and systems to identify any trends impacting the reliability of our AtoN systems and advising on improvements to be made, with input from the Operations Engineering Managers, Support and Planning Manager, and ICT Team.
- Assist in root cause analysis of all outages and in ensuring that the outcomes of all outages are fed back to the Availability & Outage monthly meeting to avoid reoccurrence.
- Provide feedback to the Availability & Outage monthly meeting in relation to performance and/or functionality of the AIS AtoN management/monitoring systems.
- Maintain log of preventative and corrective actions and follow up regularly on status.

General activities

- Supporting development of systems documentation, training materials and specifications where required.
- Continuous improvement cycle for systems, processes and policies
- Completing work activities on time and on budget and to quality standards
- Complying with all Health and Safety requirements including carrying out risk assessments, where required.
- Delivering on objectives agreed in the Performance and Development System (PADS)
- This list is not exhaustive, and duties may be re-assigned depending on personnel and other organisational change. Undertake additional tasks and responsibilities as assigned or necessary, within the scope of the role



Experience and Qualifications

Essential

- Strong electronic, technical or systems background
- Good oral and written communication skills, including report-writing skills
- Strong ICT skills (systems maintenance and monitoring) and good working knowledge of Microsoft Office
- Previous experience or understanding of technical diagnostic roles that include cross-reference fault patterns with external factors, for example, weather, 3rd party faults, on-site maintenance visits
- Team player, with good people skills and experience of working across a number of departments at an organisational level
- Excellent fault finding and diagnostics skills
- Good administration, organisational, planning and logistics skills

Desirable

- Professional qualification in a relevant discipline
- Knowledge of Marine Aids to Navigation
- Appreciation of the critical importance of Maritime Safety information to Safety of Life at Sea.
- Previous seagoing experience or background would be an advantage.
- Experience with documenting of system requirements (technical and functional requirements)
- Experienced at developing reports and other technical documentation
- Appropriate theoretical and practical methods to the analysis and solution of engineering problems

Salary

The annual salary for this role commences at €41,117 and rises to €50,300 based on experience.



Terms and Benefits*

Irish Lights offers a comprehensive and market-competitive range of benefits to employees, including a generous range of family friendly/flexible working policies and a commitment to the further development and education of its employees.

Remuneration: An attractive salary range and pension benefits are attached to this role.

Death in service pension benefits: The pension scheme will pay 2 times annual salary to a nominated person(s) in the event of a member's death in service.

Annual Leave: 21 days, increasing 23 days after 7 years continuous service and 26 days after 12 years continuous service.

Sickness Absence Provisions: For employees unfortunate enough to become ill, the Sick Leave Policy provides up to a total of 13 weeks paid leave (less any social welfare payments) in one year, followed by a further 13 weeks half pay (less half of any social welfare payments) thereafter, subject to a maximum of a total of 26 weeks paid sick leave in any four-year period. These benefits are enhanced after 3 years satisfactory service.

Location: The role will be based in our Head Office in Dun Laoghaire.

Training and Development support: Irish Lights aims to ensure that all employees have the knowledge, skills and experience necessary to be successful in their roles and to fulfil their career potential and operates a Performance and Development Process through which development can be planned and achieved.

Family Friendly Policies: Irish Lights has a range of family friendly policies that allow employees to balance work with other aspects of their lives. These include Maternity, Paternity, Adoptive and Parental Leave provisions, the majority of which have elements which are enhanced beyond the statutory entitlements.

Canteen: There is an onsite canteen that offers a variety of options for breakfast and lunch, including a barista coffee service.

Employee Assistance Programme (EAP): Irish Lights provides an independent, 100% confidential EAP service, delivered through VHI, offering professional and impartial advice, information and counselling on a range of issues including legal, financial, and health matters. This service is free to employees and is also available to immediate family members.

Occupational Health Service: Irish Lights works with an independent Occupational Health service provider, who provides support and advice for employees who have an illness or a medical condition affecting their ability to work.

Eyesight test: Employees can avail of an eyesight test voucher.

Travel and Subsistence: Travel and subsistence expenses are paid to employees required to travel, in accordance with approved rates.

Onsite facilities: There is onsite car parking at our Dun Laoghaire office, including e-charging points and bicycle stands. Shower/locker room facilities are also available.

TaxSaver Scheme: Employees who travel to work using public transport can avail of an Annual TaxSaver ticket which provides significant savings on travel costs.

Bikes for Work Scheme: Employees who cycle to work or use a bicycle on part of their journey can avail of the Bikes for Work Scheme.

** To be considered for this role, candidates must be able to prove they have the right to work in Ireland. Applicants should note that eligibility is determined by the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment. Further information regarding eligibility is available at:*

<https://enterprise.gov.ie/en/what-we-do/workplace-and-skills/employment-permits/employment-permit-eligibility/>

Non-EEA applicants are responsible for ensuring they can secure a visa to travel to Ireland. Any offer of employment is conditional on applicants securing the appropriate employment permissions.



Irish Lights Remit

The mission of Irish Lights is Safe Navigation at Sea. We are a maritime organisation delivering essential 24/7 safety and navigation services around Ireland and Northern Ireland, 365 days a year. Playing a lead role in maritime safety, Irish Lights operates a 24-hour emergency response function.

Irish Lights is responsible for Maritime Aids to Navigation under the Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS) Convention. This remit includes the provision and maintenance of over 340 general aids to navigation, the superintendence of approx. 3,500 local aids to navigation, and marking or removing dangerous wrecks outside harbour areas around Ireland.

Irish Lights also provides a range of navigation and contract commercial services including ship charter, buoy and maritime data. We provide value added services to support the development of the broader maritime economy including Met and Coastal Data Services. The Irish Lights tourism and heritage initiative, 'Great Lighthouses of Ireland' was developed in partnership with local communities and offers visitors from home and abroad the chance to visit or stay in a working lighthouse.

Mission Statement

Safe Navigation at Sea: To be a leading provider of reliable, efficient and cost-effective navigation and maritime services for the safety of all.

Vision Statement

Irish Lights will be a dynamic, forward facing maritime organisation, conscious of our long history and poised to deliver future safe, smart and sustainable maritime services – at the interface of navigation, technology, data and engineering.

Values

Irish Lights' strategy will be delivered by holding true to the values of the organisation. Our Values set the foundation for our interactions with our stakeholders, customers, suppliers, and the community. These values, which are the cornerstone for the success of the organisation, are as follows:

- Professionalism
- Respect
- Trust
- Quality
- Innovation
- Collaboration



How to Apply

Applications with CV and cover letter to be submitted to;

Gemma Gregan, HR Advisor
E: human.resources@irishlights.ie
T: +353 1 2715400

Closing date for applications is midnight on **Friday, 17 July 2026**.

Please view [Irish Lights Job Applicant Privacy Notice](#) on the Vacancies page of our website.



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The Commissioners of Irish Lights is an equal opportunities employer and promotes diversity in the workplace.