

Plymouth's Mount Batten Tower is the next landmark to have its moment in the permanent spotlight as part of a Council project to light up the city's monuments.

Historic England has recently given the go-ahead for listed building consent to have LED lights installed around the tower of one the city's oldest fortifications. They described the proposal as 'beneficial for the presentation and public enjoyment of the monument'.

A set of 16 lights will be lighting up the walls of the 17<sup>th</sup> Century tower which stands on a knoll at Mount Batten looking across to the Citadel. The historic tower is a scheduled monument and takes its name from Captain William Batten, a commander in Cromwell's Parliamentarian navy.

Councillor Tudor Evans, leader of the Council said: "We have some amazing historical structures here in Plymouth and are determined to make the most of them.

"Our waterfront is attracting more visitors in the evening and at night and the whole area is becoming more active, with more cafes and restaurants opening later. As people look out to sea, or indeed as people visit the city from the sea, it will be lovely to see these stunning landmarks lit at night."

Work will begin on the installation next month (Oct). The system is being designed so that the lights will be linked to Smeaton's Tower and can operate in sequence.

Work on lighting the Mayflower Steps is also due to start next month. This £5,000 project has been funded by the Plymouth Waterfront Partnership.

*Sarah Gibson (nee O'Leary), Waterfront Manager for the Partnership which represents more than 620 businesses along the Waterfront, said: "Few cities have a waterfront as stunning as ours with the rich diversity it offers. The lighting of the Waterfront's iconic structures is another result of the strength of private and public sector partnership working between the Waterfront Business Improvement District and Plymouth City Council.*

*"With Mayflower400 on the horizon in 2020, to have the Waterfront's important iconic structures lit up at night is essential in enhancing the cultural offer. We were very keen to fund a part of the scheme and applaud Plymouth City Council's significant investment in the Waterfront area."*

The ongoing project to light up the city's landmarks has been incredibly popular. The world-famous Smeaton's Tower was lit up in March and Charles Church, the city's memorial to those who died in the Blitz followed in May.

It is hoped that the installations will be complete by November and details of switch-on events will follow.