

Captain P J Towell OBE MA MBA CEng CMarEng FIMarEST Royal Navy



Peter James Towell, educated at Winterton Comprehensive School North Lincolnshire, joined the Royal Navy in 1982 as an Artificer Apprentice. Having enjoyed training in HM Ships Fisgard, Caledonia, Fearless and Collingwood he completed his apprenticeship at HMS Sultan in July 1986. Sea service followed in HMS Glasgow, with promotion to Chief Petty Officer in 1989. He returned to HMS Sultan for specialist training before returning to sea in HMS Edinburgh from 1992 - 95.

He was commissioned as a Special Duties Officer in 1995 at Greenwich Naval College then undertook additional technical training in HMS Sultan. Subsequently appointed to sea he served as DMEO in HMS YORK 1996-98. Shore appointments followed with the engineering staff of the Flag Officer Surface Flotilla and as a course manager at HMS Sultan. Promoted to Lieutenant Commander in 2001 he returned to sea in HMS ARK ROYAL as the Senior Engineer, then served on COMOPS' staff as DFOMO2 and subsequently attended the Advanced Command and Staff Course (ACSC), from which he graduated in 2006 with an MA in Defence Studies.

Promoted to Commander on completion of ACSC he joined the Defence Logistics Organisation maritime financial planning team, which during his tenure became part of Fleet Resources and Plans. To complement his financial work he studied for an MBA and graduated from Cranfield University in January 2009. In February that year he was appointed to the Destroyers Project Team, initially as the Platform Systems Manager and subsequently as the Requirements Manager where he was deeply involved in the acceptance into service of the first of class, HMS Daring. In May 2010 he was assigned as SMEO to COMDEVFLOT, a challenging and rewarding role. This was followed in August 2012 by a move to West Battery as the Engineering (General Service) Branch Manager. In that role he oversaw the genesis and early delivery phase of Project Faraday, for which he was appointed an OBE. He was selected for promotion to Captain in 2013 and assigned to COMPORFLOT as Captain Engineering in March 2014.

Captain Towell has the privilege of returning to HMS Sultan as the Commanding Officer from 26 July 2016.