



### **Commodore Simon Huntington OBE Royal Navy Commander Operational Training**

Commodore Simon Huntington joined the Royal Navy as a Warfare Officer in 1990, graduating from the University of Newcastle upon Tyne, having served in the Royal Naval Reserve. Early appointments were as navigator on fishery protection and mine counter-measures tasking, and for two deployments to the Adriatic, contributing to UN and NATO operations in Bosnia. He then commanded the patrol boat HMS EXAMPLE and Northumbrian Universities' Royal Naval Unit.

As anti-submarine warfare and operations officer, he served in the Arabian Gulf enforcing UN sanctions against Iraq, followed by a tour in the Joint Force Headquarters during planning and execution of Operation TELIC. He completed Advanced Command and Staff Course and, promoted Commander in 2004, joined the Iraq current commitments team in the Ministry of Defence. Appointed to Navy Command, he was involved in surface Ship scheduling and commitments, before assuming command of the frigate HMS CHATHAM in early 2009. Leading the Ship through a full operational cycle, they generated from dock to deploy to the Indian Ocean as Flagship for a NATO counter-piracy deployment, before decommissioning and disposal in 2011. The following two years were spent as Chief of Staff to the Director of Naval Personnel Strategy and as Warfare Officers' Career Manager.

Promoted Captain, he returned to the Joint Force Headquarters in 2013. As Chief of Staff in the UK's Extremely High Readiness Operational HQ, his focus was split between crisis response and formation of the Standing Joint Force Headquarters. He then completed Higher Command and Staff Course before returning to Navy Command as DACOS Ships in June 2016. There he enjoyed nine months as Surface Ships Senior Operator and Destroyers In-Service Capability Manager, also responsible for warfare capability coherence, the maritime stockpile, and Chief of Staff to Rear Admiral Surface Ships. He was promoted to become Commander Operational Training in February 2017.

Simon is married to Angela and they have four young and highly active children. Whenever time allows, they pursue their love of exercise, nature and the outdoors.