

Mr Keith BECKETT CBE CEng FIMarEST

Following initial training and study at the Royal Naval Engineering College, Manadon, Rear Admiral Beckett specialised as submarine Marine Engineer Officer. He qualified as a submariner in HMS TRAFALGAR in 1987 where he served as an Assistant Marine Engineer Officer for three years.

Service in the diesel submarines HMS ONYX and HMS OCELOT followed and, on completion, RAdm Beckett was appointed as the Support Manager at the Clyde Submarine Base (now HMNB Clyde). Here he was heavily involved in supporting the last years of the Resolution Class SSBNs and preparing the Base for the arrival of the first of the Vanguard Class SSBNs. RAdm Beckett subsequently served as both DMEO and MEO in HMS TRIUMPH during a challenging and varied period of operations and revalidation maintenance in the Admiralty Floating Dock back at Clyde.

After a period as the submarine engineer career manager, RAdm Beckett led the 'In-Service' safety section working for the Director Nuclear Propulsion during a period characterised by a number of challenging technical issues. A return to the waterfront as the Flotilla Marine Engineer was followed by three years as the submarine engineering staff officer to CINC Fleet at the Headquarters in Leach Building.

In 2007, RAdm Beckett was appointed to work within the US Naval Sea Systems Command as the UK submarine technology liaison officer. This role was predominantly focussed on submarine nuclear propulsion and, in particular, the technologies required to design and build the UK Successor SSBN. On return to the UK in 2010, he was promoted to Commodore and appointed as the Director Nuclear Propulsion in the Submarine Operating Centre of the DE&S in Abbey Wood.

In 2013, he and his family moved back to Scotland when he was appointed in Command of HMNB Clyde. He remained in post through a fascinating period that included the let of a new contract for the operation and maintenance of the Naval Base and the Scottish Referendum in Sep 14.

Promoted to Rear Admiral in November 2014, he has returned to the DE&S to serve as the Chief Strategic Systems Executive and UK project officer for the Polaris Sales Agreement. His responsibilities were expanded in December 2015 to incorporate the role of Director Submarine Support within the Submarines Operating Centre.

Keith is currently Technical Director of the SDA (Submarine Delivery Agency) as well as Deputy CEO, as well as CSSE (Chief Strategic Systems Executive).