**The Society & College of Radiographers**

**Professional Officer Report for Scottish Council (November 2016).**

**Please also refer to my SCoR Scotland Mind Map**

**Scottish Government Health Directorate (SGHD)**

3 improvement advisors have been employed – Mark Hamilton, Improvement Advisor from West Lothian, Jed Quirke, Improvement Advisor from South Ayrshire Council and Greer Gay, Improvement Advisor with AHP background.

AILIP launch being organised for November.

*Scottish Cancer Task Force (SCT)*

# The new Scottish Cancer Plan entitled **Beating Cancer - Ambition and Action** has now moved into an implementation stage to which I have suggested some proposals**.** The main focus of the meeting was on this plan. The implementation plan illustrates and monitors the progress via nominated “responsible” individuals and/or groups, including projected timescales. A review of the SCT membership also took place – there were no radiotherapy updates. Systemic Anti-Cancer therapy - a presentation was delivered on phase 1 of the SACT Future Service Delivery project, in the West of Scotland.

I met with Lindsay Allan,Policy and Public Affairs Adviserfrom Cancer Research UK who is involved in writing a report of diagnostic imaging capacity in the devolved nations. A good meeting at which I raised all the usual issues surrounding clinical imaging services – workforce; reporting radiographers; out of hours services etc.

*AHP small occupations group*

This meeting, at the CHPOs office – took place in response to the issue of sonographer workforce shortages. It was investigative in nature and included other “small occupations” including detail of the current deficiencies in the numbers and levels of experience of Medical Physics staff in services that involve ionising radiation and the difficulties in recruitment. It seems that this meeting has now been taken over by all the other shortage professions – see



Therapeutic Radiographers are no longer on the shortage occupation list – Diagnostic Radiographers still are as are Sonographers – see <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/tier-2-shortage-occupation-list>

**National Services Division (NSD)**

**NHS HIS**

* Healthcare Improvement Scotland (HIS) has invited me to be part of the Scottish Breast Screening Programme Review Team looking into the appointments system. This work will finish by the end of the year with a report published. The service have been made aware of the review and further information, including the Terms of Reference for this work is provided through the following link: <http://www.healthcareimprovementscotland.org/our_work/governance_and_assurance/programme_resources/breast_screening_review.aspx>
* The Breast Screening Standards Review has now been postponed till 2017 – we now have a Mammographer to represent us on this review team.

**SCIN**

The next SCIN sub-group meeting for “Horizon Scanning” is scheduled for Thursday 3rd November – see  

**The network is very keen to get more operational radiography staff involved in its various working groups – please do encourage your colleagues to do so – great CPD. I continue to be concerned that the majority of members on SCIN are Radiologists – is this because Radiographers are not interested or cannot get away?** 

The next SCIN steering group meeting will take place .

There is now a live Twitter feed at [NSS.SCIN@nhs.net](mailto:NSS.SCIN@nhs.net)

**Radiographer Reporting**

There has been some more perceived barriers to “reporting radiographers” – I see this more and more through the SCIN group – one of my responses was:

*Whilst it is recognised that there is a shortage of Radiologists in NHS Scotland, I would respectfully like to point out that Radiographer Reporting has a very strong part to play in radiology reporting services and would be even more so if those Radiographers who are educated and trained to report, were actually empowered to do so as part of their clinical role.*

*Plain film Radiographer reporting is a necessary service in Scotland for patients; it is here to stay; is robust in its’ clinical effectiveness; is proving efficient and cost effective and the standard of reporting is the same as for that for Radiologists. It seems unfeasible that Boards continue to outsource their reporting to external companies at high costs.*

*Radiographer reporting alongside Radiologists can reduce waits for diagnostic outcomes and reduce burdens from some aspects of cross-sectional imaging to support the achievement of cancer targets. In this way Radiographers can support Radiologists as a highly functional multi-disciplinary team. There is also a place for limited cross sectional reporting by radiographers (as detailed below) despite the results of a recent RCR Scotland survey, which many SCIN members acknowledged as being obtrusive.*

*Reporting radiographers are a useful teaching resource for trainee radiologists and others. They support emergency nurse practitioners and others in improving referrals and reduce misinterpretation/misdiagnosis impacts in A&E.*

Jonathan McConnel (as Chair of RRIGS) is involved in setting up a working group with Jacqui Lunday and the other two reporting radiographer consultants (Margaret and Caroline). Let’s hope this group will be a useful vehicle for moving things forward.

**AHPfS**

The next meeting takes place on 8th December. AHPfS now has a work plan – see 

* I wrote the AHPfS response to the NES consultation of supervision – see 
* SG has a project with the objective to create a workforce and workload measurement tool for AHPs in Scotland.

**Learning & Education**

*NHS Education for Scotland (NES*) <http://www.nes.scot.nhs.uk/>

Major changes in AHP workforce at NES – it looks to me as though many activities are “on hold”

* The NES Radiography Advisory Board is scheduled for 2nd December 
* The NES AHP Advisory Board is scheduled for 19th December
* NES have recently updated the items on the News page of the Effective Practitioner website.  They invite you to have a quick look at the updates please click this [link](http://www.effectivepractitioner.nes.scot.nhs.uk/info-centre/news.aspx).  Healthcare Associate Infection (HAI) have posted a survey

Students:

The 2nd Inter-University Conference in Scotland took place on Saturday 29th October at RGU in Aberdeen – programme is here. The day was a great success – the students are really engaged in Scotland. Both RGU and GCU have Student Radiographer Societies – see <http://www.sor.org/learning/student-zone/radiography-societies>



**SCoR**

* SCoR RoY awards is on 8th November at House of Commons
* There have been updates to CPD Now and the PEAS Accreditation and also some “reflection” guidance at <http://www.sor.org/news/recording-reflective-cpd>
* The leads of the 3 main radiotherapy professional bodies spoke at an event with MPs – see <http://www.sor.org/news/radiotherapy-cancer-treatment-past-or-future>
* Some recent SCoR publications on the document library are <https://www.sor.org/learning/document-library> :
* *Trans Equality; guidance for the radiography workforce (imaging and radiotherapy)*
* *Approval and Accreditation Board; Annual Report 2013-2014*
* *Survey into student bullying on clinical placement*
* *Computerised Tomography (CT) scanners in Nuclear Medicine facilities; use by nuclear medicine practitioners from both radiographic and technologist backgrounds.*
* *Census of the Radiotherapy Radiographic Workforce in the UK, 2015*
* *Achieving World-Class Cancer Outcomes: The Vision for Therapeutic Radiography*

Also, please do sign up for the on-line manager’s network within SCoR – ***First Talk***; the SoR members forum ***SCoR Talk***; and for students ***Student Talk***.

Maria Murray

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November 2016

PS I have not included topics around my radiation protection (RP) role as this report is long enough. There is plenty going on with RP though, so feel free to ask me.