**STRF REPORT to Scottish Council AGM October 2018**

Main topics for discussion and consideration by the group are outlined below:

**National Radiotherapy Sub group (this is a subgroup of the National Cancer Clinical Services Group (NCCSG) )**

**All departments are represented on this group**

Main issues discussed include –

Cancer Strategy

Discussions around the submission of Scottish RTDS to PHE, are ongoing. It is hoped that we will be able to submit data from the end of this year/beginning of next, to enable benchmarking across the country. The RTDS National Project Lead is working with all parties to take this project forward.

Funding: The most recent round of available funding was allocated with all proposals submitted being accepted. This included therapeutic radiography posts/roles – e.g. consultant; clinical trials & development

Peer review – implementation. The peer review activity data and any identified gaps to be collated for further discussion.

Radiotherapy education – this issue was raised at RT sub group and NCCSG as a result of vacancies at QMU, with the potential to impact on the clinical service.

Provision/ introduction of new techniques across Scotland, letters have been sent to all cancer centres with specific queries the responses to which will be collated bythe national radiotherapy co-ordinator and discussed at the next RT sub group meeting in December.

**HEI’s –**

Reports from the two HEIs are submitted and discussed.

One of the main areas of concern is around the significant changes at QMU with two experienced lecturers leaving and the third on maternity leave, and the potential impact on the clinical service in terms of a gap in the availability of newly qualified radiographers, with no intake to PGD course this year.

Appointments have been made to some of the vacant posts : Lis Taylor has been appointed to a permanent lecturer post and will be focussing on core radiotherapy Practice Modules in radiotherapy and Elaine Kay has been appointed on a temporary basis to cover the period of maternity leave and will be Acting Placement Coordinator.

QMU has suspended some post graduate courses/modules this year, and it is still not clear what is to happen with the lecturer post which is still vacant. The QMU annual advisory committee meeting is scheduled for early December when it is hoped more information will be available.

**Workforce planning:** ongoing discussions at STRF re this issue. This identified a need for more information around the staffing profile in the centres, and different ways of working and staffing levels use of skill mix, as well as the role of the assistant practitioners.

**L-J Rugg**

**Oct 2018**