INTRODUCTION

The consultant radiographer group meetings were originally set up as a support mechanism for what was then a very small number of practitioners. The role in practice has exceeded all expectations in terms of the number of people now in post and the recent meeting demonstrated how successful those roles can be in terms of good quality healthcare delivery. This success has made the old meeting system impractical and the consultant radiographer advisory group (CRAG) was established in 2017. The group consists of a cross section of specialities across radiotherapy and diagnostic services representing the wider group in advising the SCoR. Sue Williams is the current chairperson of the group with Jonathon McConnell the vice chair. The current arrangements provide two face to face group meeting per year and include the contribution of Rachel Harris and Tracy O’Regan as professional officers for the SCoR. The group members routinely communicate through Synapsee between meetings.

OVERVIEW

To improve access and communication all consultant practitioners are invited to join Glasscubes - a communication platform for professional groups. This has allowed the individual practitioners to give their opinions on local, regional and national issue and to discuss issues and challenges with their peers. This has proven to be very popular with the wider group with high rates of activity. CRAG membership is taken from the pool of consultant radiographers and work with the SCoR to promote the profession and further the profession now and in the future. The first meeting was in September 2017 and was used to establish the expectations of the group and the role of the group in terms of the SCoR and the wider consultant radiographer network. A proposed work plan was submitted to the council for approval after the meeting in March 2018.

ACHIEVEMENTS

Based on the targets set as part of the 2018/19 work plan:

- The majority of CRAG members are now CoR accreditation assessors the remaining few are awaiting suitable training dates.
- An impact tool kit has been developed to assist practitioner in quantifying and measuring their consultant practice, publication has been delayed in anticipation of the National consultant framework document.
- Agreed articles have been published in synergy news to promote both the consultant radiographer role and the role of CRAG.
- Work is under way to explore the HCPC standards for proficiency.
- Succession planning is on-going to future proof the CRAG group and to provide both stability and sustainability of the group.
A highly successful study day was organised for the wider group.

All members are acting as reviewers for Imaging and Therapy Practice.

All members continue to make meaningful contributions to national projects and initiatives.

THE YEAR AHEAD

A work plan for 2019/20 will be submitted to the council for review

In future the consultant radiographer face to face group meetings will function in an advisory capacity to take ownership and provide workable solutions for the future of the profession. The Consultant Radiographer Advisory Group (CRAG) will have a Terms of Reference (ToR) in line with the other College advisory groups, and membership criteria. The CRAG will consist of approx. 15 members and these positions will be for four year periods. The ToR will be reviewed to reflect the agreed practices and expected commitment.