

## **Diagnostic Imaging Advisory Group (DIAG) Work Plan 2018-2019**

### **CONTEXT:**

- Diagnostic imaging is a vital part of the patient pathway for many conditions including acute injury/illness and ongoing treatment; cancer diagnosis and follow up; long term conditions such as vascular disease or arthritis. Improving access to rapid diagnosis is a priority for the patients, the NHS and the wider public health agenda.
- A significant component of the modernisation agenda for healthcare focuses on earlier diagnosis for patients with cancer which places further importance on the role of diagnostic radiographers and associated diagnostic imaging professionals in the pathway. A rising focus on productivity has combined with workforce efficiency, improving access and increasing consumer expectations to create an urgency to review patterns of practice.
- Diagnostic radiographers and the wider diagnostic workforce working within this technologically sophisticated care environment must be supported and developed to be able to maximise their individual and collective potential in delivering the best care for people using their services.

### **RATIONALE:**

The DIAG aims to make a significant contribution to the development of the profession and in raising its profile nationally. It will be an effective voice for the community of diagnostic radiographers and the wider diagnostic imaging nonmedical workforce within the Society of Radiographers.

### **DIAG OBJECTIVES:**

- To provide advice and information to the organisation relating to:
  - The continuing education and professional development needs of diagnostic radiographers and the wider diagnostic imaging workforce.
  - The development needs of the service to provide patient centred care.
- To promote explicit career development pathways, in line with organisation policy, for diagnostic radiographers and the wider diagnostic imaging workforce across all aspects of the profession.
- To facilitate research and guideline development for the benefit of patients and for publication by the Society and College of Radiographers.
- To represent the organisation in relevant interprofessional forums.

## **DIAG OBJECTIVES *cont.***

- To develop, respond to and comment upon documents as requested by the organisation and its officers.
- To debate policy and evaluate its impact on the profession making representation as necessary.
- To promote and support the policy decisions of the organisation.
- To undertake projects/pieces of work on behalf of the organisation and profession as agreed.
- To communicate effectively and to share information among the members of the profession at all times.

## **TARGETS FOR 2018:**

- **Document development**
  - Support the delivery of the revised Assistant Practitioner Scope of Practice Guidance document  
**Target date: Autumn 2018**
  - Contribute to SCoR publications as requested
- **Workforce**
  - Participate in workforce review work e.g. Cancer Framework
  - Share workforce intelligence via Synapse and face to face meetings
  - Represent SoR at meetings/working parties as required
- **Leadership and Mentorship guidance**

Support the development of guidance and influence content
- **Respond to Consultations**

Provide broad view across the clinical imaging community seeking views of peers and colleagues and representing their views back to DIAG
- **Provide SCoR representation on national working parties as requested by SCoR**

e.g. National Imaging Optimisation Board (NIOB),  
Health Education England ( HEE) working parties
- **Communication**
  - Contribute to the work of DIAG via Synapse
  - Attend face to face meetings x2 /year
  - Attend working party/sub group meetings as required
  - Promote the work of DIAG
  - Suggest web site links/articles/news stories for Clinical imaging pages
  - Develop a regular presence in Synergy News

### **ACHIEVING THE TARGETS:**

- The Chair of the group will prepare an annual report for SCoR Council.
- DIAG members will be identified to support each element of the work plan
- To confirm achievement of targets, the group will monitor the progress of ongoing work to ensure it remains within time frames and budgets.
- Accountability of the group is via the Chair.

### **ANTICIPATED COSTS:**

Approximate costs for the work of the group are:

12 members x 2 meetings a year  
Additional work/small group meetings  
Supporting member attendance at events

### **BENEFITS:**

- Increasing the profile and contribution of the Society and College in diagnostic imaging
- Ensuring that clinical imaging services and practitioners engage with and benefit from the career progression framework (formerly known as the four-tier structure)
- Ensuring that services and practitioners benefit from the Society's expertise in clinical and education matters
- Increasing membership of SCoR through engaging with members and demonstrating the value of membership through interaction and involvement
- Improved documents and policies