

Michael Dawson : Mediator CV



For over 38 years I was actively involved in negotiations and the resolution of claims and disputes arising in the construction and insurance industries where I qualified and worked as a Chartered Quantity Surveyor and a Chartered Loss Adjuster respectively. In January 2008 I also trained to become an Accredited Commercial Mediator to use my skills to assist parties in dispute to resolve their dispute in a fast, cost-effective manner. I also undertook further training to mediate in community/neighbourhood disputes. I am a firm believer in the use of mediation to resolve the majority of disputes, but not to the exclusion of all other means.

Prior to mediation:

I talk to the parties to determine whether the case is suitable for mediation, offering impartial advice where necessary if I believe another dispute resolution method to be more appropriate. I also advise against mediating too early in the dispute, i.e. when inadequate preparation is evident, but it is rarely too late to mediate.

Recognising that mediation is a completely new experience for some, I am happy to make myself available to the parties for discussions as to procedure and their preferences, which remain paramount.

Once the mediation agreement has been signed, I prefer to speak to the parties and/or their representatives in confidence, to provide me with an understanding of the dispute, requesting only the minimum of documentation for my perusal beforehand. However, **thorough** preparation by me **and** the parties is essential to a successful mediation. Therefore, I will discuss the extent of preparation needed, at length, with the parties.

On The Day of Mediation:

I encourage parties to be relaxed whilst retaining a professional focused approach.

My manner is to be fairly quiet and in the background but encouraging the parties to discuss the issues frankly, interjecting only when necessary for clarification or understanding. I will not force parties into an agreement although I encourage them to weigh up the risks attached to any course of action and to see issues from another perspective.

Post mediation:

If a case does not settle on the day, I remain in contact with the parties to provide further assistance, if needed, without charge.

Mediation Experience:

Disputes concerning insurance, construction, commerce (sale of goods and finance), landlord/tenant, boundaries, probate, personal injury, workplace and community/neighbour are examples of some where I have helped parties to resolve their differences.

More about me:

I qualified as a Chartered Quantity Surveyor and a Chartered Builder whilst working for a number of major contractors in the North West of England between 1973 and 1987. I subsequently made the transition into loss adjusting, becoming an Associate of the Chartered Insurance Institute, a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Loss Adjusters and a European Loss Adjusting Expert, working for several major loss adjusting companies until 2011.

In January 2008, I trained as a civil/commercial mediator with Clerksroom (London School of Mediation) under the expert tutelage of Jonathan Dingle and Judith Kelbie. Also in 2008, I undertook additional training to enable me to mediate in community/neighbour disputes. In May 2011, I established my own business to become a full time mediator.

I regularly mediate voluntarily in community/neighbour disputes on behalf of Smile Mediation, a charity based in Burnley, where I am also a Director. I also undertake pro-bono commercial mediations for LawWorks.

I am interested in developing dispute resolution on a wider scale and educating people about the benefits of mediation in particular until it becomes mainstream.

In addition to my mediation qualification, I am entitled to display the following designations:

FRICS (Fellow of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors)

MCIOB (Member of the Chartered Institute of Building)

ACII (Associate of the Chartered Insurance Institute)

FCILA (Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Loss Adjusters)

FUEDI-ELAE (European Loss Adjusting Expert)

Publications:

Articles and letters of mine have been published in *Post Magazine*, *Construction Manager* and *Cunningham Lindsey's Commercial News*.

Memberships:

In addition to membership of the professional institutes listed above, I am a member of the following mediation organisations: Association of Northern Mediators, Dispute Mediation Consultancy, LawWorks, Civil Mediation Council, Smile Mediation.

Further information:

I am available for free consultations at any time and would welcome the opportunity to talk to you about how my knowledge and experience may be able to help resolve any dispute in which you may be involved. Please call me on **0844 879 3166** or email me at **info@expediteresolution.com**.