

“Litigation is a high risk gamble – and the risks and burden of costs today are so substantial that for any well advised [person] litigation must be the course of last resort if any reasonable alternative is available.... The alternative of choice today is mediation. The law today increasingly recognises the value and importance of mediation as a social necessity....

Give mediation a chance. Give it a chance at the earliest opportunity...In litigation there is only one winner and that is generally the lawyers. Mediation is not a universal panacea: it has its limitations and is not always applicable. But where it is available in my view no sane or conscientious litigators or party will lightly reject it...”

© Mr Justice Lightman, July 2003.



mediation-1st

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mediation-1st is a trading style of Leathes Prior Solicitors

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Why take disputes to Mediation? Judge for yourself.

Mediation works.

About 8 out of 10 mediations settle.

It's cheaper than litigation.

The cost of a Mediation starts from £50 plus VAT per party.

It's quicker than litigation.

A Mediation can normally be arranged in two to four weeks.

It's less uncertain than litigation.

Risk is minimal; Mediation is voluntary and if a party doesn't like what's on offer, they don't have to settle.

It may be an opportunity.

A mediated solution may enable the parties to preserve business relationships.

It enables the parties to judge for themselves.

Mediation returns the dispute to the parties, enabling them to talk to each other in a safe and structured negotiation. They are assisted by a neutral Mediator to find their own resolution of their dispute rather than having a solution imposed by a judge. Each of the parties will be able to live with a mediated settlement, whereas a judge's imposed decision leaves at least one (and often two!) losers.

And lastly, ignoring it could be costly!

A refusal to mediate can lead to costs penalties in court.

Mediation is the **modern, practical, commercial** way to **resolve** disputes.



What do you have to gain by using mediation-1st? A great deal.

Why mediation 1st? Well...

- Our Mediators are all **accredited** by either CEDR or the ADR Group.
- We only offer Mediators who mediate **regularly**.
- Our charges are based on the amount in dispute (and they're **highly competitive!**).
- We don't charge for "preparation time", nor an "arrangement fee", nor for "extra hours" on the Mediation Day. **The rates you see set out on the right are what you actually pay.**
- We offer both Full Day Mediations **and** Time Limited Mediations.
- We're always willing to discuss whether a case is suitable for Mediation **without obligation**.
- You can check dates **on line** at www.mediation-1st.co.uk
- We offer ideal Mediation **premises** with free parking in the Cathedral Close, Norwich, at no extra cost.

mediation-1st – why settle for less?

Our feedback speaks for itself:

"We felt we must thank you personally for the utmost attention and help which you provided and we are sure that your influence and charisma was a great part in securing a settlement to bring to an end what has been a most difficult time and we are extremely grateful".

"On the day we knew very quickly that we had the right Mediator".

"A calm and confident presence...prepared thoroughly...clearly had the confidence and respect of all the parties...it was a great help to have Martin".

"I was amazed at what you were able to achieve".

"Your commitment and unsparing work to find a solution acceptable to both was most impressive".

"...we were made to feel relaxed and at ease whilst talking with you, which is great considering we were a little daunted by the whole situation".

"We were filled with admiration for your skill and resourcefulness, human understanding and basically your brilliant handling of what appeared a very thorny situation for us".

"We would like to thank you for negotiating an efficient out of court settlement....[your fee] was a small sum of money to pay for such a flawless service from initial contact right through to completion".

Our charges

Amount in Dispute (£)	Full Mediation* Each Party Pays (plus VAT)	Time Limited Mediation** Each Party Pays (plus VAT)
0 - 499	-	£50
500 - 999	-	£75
1,000 - 2,999	-	£100
3,000 - 4,999	-	£150
5,000 - 9,999	£250	£175
10,000 - 14,999	£375	£245
15,000 - 24,999	£500	£295
25,000 - 49,999	£750	£345
50,000+	£950	£395

* Full Mediation: Inclusive of preparation time and full Mediation Day - no additional charges for "extra" hours.

** Time Limited Mediation: Up to three and a half hour Mediation

Our Facilities

We offer full mediation facilities at our own premises in the Cathedral Close in Norwich free of charge.



Our mediators

MARTIN PLOWMAN

- CEDR Accredited Mediator.
- ADR Group Accredited Mediator.
- Member of Norwich Combined Courts Mediation Scheme Steering Committee.
- Director of Mediators in East Anglia.
- Member of the BFA National Mediation Panel.
- Specialist in commercial litigation, employment law, landlord and tenant / housing, partnership disputes and franchising / IP law.



Contact Martin on 01603 281144 or email him at martin@mediation-1st.co.uk

ANGELA FAHY

- ADR Group Accredited Mediator.
- Specialist in planning law, boundary disputes, property disputes.



Contact Angela on 01603 281128 or email her at angela@mediation-1st.co.uk