



Mediation

Let us help you find the best way forward

Your Family, Your Problems, Your Decision...

What is mediation?

Mediation is to help those in dispute find a workable, affordable and acceptable way forward. We have the skills, knowledge and expertise to help you sort out the issues that have lead to the dispute and manage any difficult but necessary conversations to move things forward.

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Your Family Matters



Most disputes never get to court and are resolved by some form of negotiation.

Mediation is a process that actively assists you to negotiate an agreement that is workable for all concerned. A mediator helps the process of negotiation by:

- > Bringing parties to a point where they can negotiate
- > Helping both sides to identify practical ways forward
- > Keeping the negotiations on track
- > Ensuring that the ways forward identified feel fair to everyone involved

...and because mediated agreements are negotiated rather than imposed on either party, they are more likely to be workable in practise and stuck to by all involved. (You can even make your mediated solution the basis of a legally binding agreement if necessary).

Over 80% of disputes that go to mediation are resolved. It is no wonder that the government and courts actively encourage you to try mediation before embarking on costly and difficult legal action. For some disputes, you will need to have met with a mediator before you can embark on legal action.

Dispute resolution with your best interests at heart

Mediation offers the freedom to discuss solutions without the worry of proposals and options later being used in legal action. Discussions are also confidential*.

Mediation is normally a fraction of the cost in both time and money of pursuing matters solely through a legal route.

It gives you the support of an expert in resolving disputes whilst keeping you in control of decisions that will affect your life and those closest to you.

Should you not be able to resolve matters through mediation, you still have the option of litigation if you wish. Nothing said in mediation can then be used against you in court*.

How mediation works

A professional mediator is an expert in dealing with disputes. They can:

- > Help you sort out the important issues to be discussed
- > Give impartial information on the sources of help and advice you may need
- > Tackle the obstacles to reaching a workable way forward.

Firstly

We will talk to you individually to establish your different points of view and clarify how best we can help the situation. If we don't think mediation will be of help we will tell you.

If your case is suitable for mediation...

We can offer:

- > Round table meetings, with all parties present, together with facilities to talk separately with the mediator if required.
- > Shuttle mediation - with separate rooms for clients and the mediator moving between rooms discussing information separately.
- > Child Consultation - we can arrange to see children individually or with siblings to establish their views and help to develop parenting plans (with parental consent).
- > A venue to suit all involved. (Including disability access and interpreters for clients with special requirements).



*There are some exceptions to confidentiality and legal privilege - your mediator will explain this to you