

Mark Mattison

Commercial Mediator

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An accredited mediator since 1998, Mark has an **excellent track record** in mediating disputes in a **wide range of sectors** across the UK.

Mark is an **internationally recognised** mediator; he has given dispute resolution training in the UK and abroad, and has lectured on ADR extensively. He is happy to receive appointments both direct and via several panels.

Areas of expertise

- Banking
- Construction and engineering
- Professional negligence
- General commercial/contractual
- Shareholder/partnership
- Boundary and right of way
- Landlord and tenant
- Insolvency

Approach to mediation

Before the day of the mediation, Mark thoroughly **analyses** the paperwork in order to get to the crux of the matter. Next, he concentrates on **building rapport** with the parties; he tries to focus everyone on key issues, securing a level of **co-operation** between the parties from the outset.

He takes a **flexible** and **proactive** approach, remaining impartial, but unafraid to offer comments and feedback where it will help. In private sessions, he is not averse to proposing possible settlement structures, where appropriate.

Accreditation and Panel Membership

- **Centre for Effective Dispute Resolution (CEDR)**
- **ADR Group**
- **Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (CI Arb) - panel member**
- **International Mediation Institute (IMI) - panel member**
- **Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (RICS) - panel member**

- **Clerksroom - panel member**
- **Association of Northern Mediators (ANM) - panel member**
- **Civil Mediation Council (CMC) - registered mediator**

Client Feedback

*"Probably the best mediator I have had in the ten or so mediations that I have taken part in. He played the whole day **perfectly**. He took an evaluative approach, but not to the extent of making comments on who would win or lose the litigation."*

"Quick and thorough grasp of the issues from the outset"

"Without your personality and your sheer persuasiveness, I do not doubt that this matter would have trundled on to the disadvantage of everyone involved."

"Managed to challenge with such finesse that the parties did not react badly"

Professional history

Mark set up a mediation business in 2005, having trained and worked as a mediator from 1998.

Before then, he worked at Eversheds (previously Alexander Tatham), joining as a trainee in 1972, and retiring as a Partner in 2005. In that time, his achievements included:

- Partner from 1978 to 2005
- Head of Commercial Litigation in Manchester
- National Eversheds Head of Litigation
- Head of Eversheds North Construction and Engineering Team

Mark studied Law at Liverpool.

Other legal memberships and positions

- Deputy Chairman of ANM
- Fellow of the CI Arb; past chairman of the NW branch
- President of Manchester Law Society, 1991-2

Examples of successful mediation cases

- **Banking**

- £55m+ claim by a group of 15 claimants against a bank- settled following a two day mediation
- £15m+ derivative miss selling claim against high street bank settled following the day of the mediation.

- **Construction/engineering**
 - £15m dispute between main contractor and subcontractor arising out of 50-week delay in major infrastructure contract. Chaired without prejudice meeting to help on-site relations leading to two-day mediation. Settled at mediation
 - Claim by hotel owner and its insurer against water utility company following damage caused by burst water main- settled at one day mediation.
 - Four-party dispute between utility company, main contractor, subcontractor and engineer, arising out of inadvertent blocking of main sewer caused by sheet piling. Settled on the day of the mediation.

- **Shareholder dispute.** Shareholder dispute between two brothers regarding businesses worth in excess of £10m. Heads of terms agreed on the day of mediation and settlement subsequently finalised.

- **Partnership.** Solicitors' partnership dispute involving forced departure of managing partner. Settled by agreement on the day of the mediation.

- **Contractual.** Contractual dispute between trailer manufacturer and customer regarding the supply of trailers. Settlement included resumption of the trading relationship.

- **Professional negligence.** Claim brought by bank against valuer after property repossessed and sold at less than valuation. Settled at mediation.

- **Contribution claim** by insurer seeking contribution against five parties arising out of a very serious accident which occurred at an oil refinery. £1m settlement achieved on the day of mediation involving negotiated contributions from all parties.

- **Landlord/tenant.** Dispute concerning the right of a landlord to recover substantial costs incurred in carrying out work to the building. A significant issue was whether the works should be classed as "repairs" or "improvements", the latter being irrecoverable. Settlement achieved within the day.

- **Boundary/right of way.** Multi-party right of way dispute. Settled on the basis of an agreed plan and specification for an upgraded road.

- **Insolvency.** Claim by liquidator for misfeasance. Settled by lunchtime.