

Keith Hardington

Mediator

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Professional Background

Current:

- Managing Partner in four-office regional law firm, Walker Foster, based in North Yorkshire.
- An experienced litigator specialising primarily in partnerships, business, land, property, Wills and probate disputes, Inheritance Act Claims and professional negligence.

Previous:

- 1989 – 1995: Leigh Gold & Co. Solicitors, Newcastle-upon-Tyne: general practice with emphasis on litigation.
- 1995 – 2000: Kidd & Spoor Solicitors, Newcastle-upon-Tyne: civil litigation.
- 2000 - present: Walker Foster Solicitors, Skipton, North Yorkshire: specialising in litigation and ADR.

Mediation Experience

- Accredited Mediator since April 2007: Regents University, London.
- Active in mediation, representing clients and/or mediating since 2000.

Examples:

- Claims involving testamentary capacity, knowledge and approval and undue influence.
- Land, boundary and access disputes.
- Building and construction
- Professional negligence against Solicitors
- Misrepresentation on sales of real property.

- Partnership and agricultural tenancy and Trusts.
- Inheritance (Provision for Family and Dependents) Act 1975 claims.
- Mortgage possession and shortfall.
- Professional partnership disputes.
- Breach of director's duties.
- ToLATA claims.
- Compensation under the 1993 Commercial Agents Regulations.

Testimonials

“Keith was an excellent listener who took the trouble to really understand the family dynamic behind the legal dispute. He was able to form a clear view of what would be acceptable to each party, and with that in mind, helped us to understand the obstacles to reach agreement, and the reaction that the other party would likely have to our proposals. This helped us to move away from entrenched positions and to reach a sensible settlement.”

Barrister, Chancery Chambers, London

“I would highly recommend Keith as a mediator. He was able to grasp the key issues of the case very quickly and was understanding to both parties points of view. He was not afraid to provide an indication when one party was being unreasonable to help push the mediation to an agreeable settlement. Keith was especially patient with the clients and clearly explained the mediation process and their key role in it. He was also willing to push the lawyers into a collaborative approach in resolving a key issue that was forming a roadblock to settlement. This willingness to “think outside the box” to prevent the settlement from stalling was very impressive.”

Solicitor, London.

“In all the many cases I’ve worked on with Keith over the last 8 years, he never fails to demonstrate complete mastery of both the facts and the law – however esoteric the area. His negotiating style combines a calm authority with a keen sense of fair-dealing which quickly wins the confidence of all those around him. Keith’s years of experience in disputes of all kinds, coupled with the diligence and patience necessary to get the job done, means that he consistently brings something extra to the table. Always ready to think outside the box, Keith is able to conjure real-life practical solutions to the most intractable of disputes, seemingly out of thin air.”

Barrister, Leeds Chambers

