

trustmediation

~ not-for-profit dispute resolution ~

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Trust Mediation Limited
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PRESS RELEASE

(following launch meeting in September 2007)

HEADLINE: "TRUST MEDIATION" SAYS SIR HENRY

Former Lord Justice Sir Henry Brooke, who famously gave mediation a major boost in his leading judgment in *Dunnett v Railtrack*, today announced the start of a not-for-profit mediation scheme for personal injury claims. Sir Henry's organisation, Trust Mediation, offers a national service using outstanding personal injury specialists from all sides of the industry who have committed themselves to the project.

Speaking at the Trust Mediation launch in 218 Strand, the new mediation centre opposite the front door of the Royal Courts of Justice, Sir Henry (71) who retired last year as Vice President of the Court of Appeal and is himself now a busy mediator said:

"This organisation is unique - it draws on the best ideas of established players and then takes them to the next level: Trust Mediation is a not-for-profit organisation whose members are highly committed to mediation. Its directors are highly experienced volunteers who will not be paid for their board duties, and it provides notable personal injury mediators nationally for a fixed modest fee, using mediation suites in more than a dozen key locations."

"Frankly," added Sir Henry "this is exactly what mediation should be about - trust, neutrality, expertise, availability and affordability".
(for more detail - see Notes for Editors below)

TRUST MEDIATION - NOTES FOR EDITORS

Mediation is being actively promoted by the Courts, the Government, major insurers and consumer groups. A new organisation, "Trust Mediation" is set to give mediation a major push in the personal injury sector which has long lagged behind other areas in using this cost-efficient and effective tool.

Trust Mediation which will operate under the chairmanship of Sir Henry Brooke who has masterminded its creation, follows considerable planning by many of the major players in the sector. The July meeting that led to the launch was innovative in itself. Representatives from APIL and Injury Lawyers 4U discussed better dispute resolution with FOIL, and liability, motor and legal expenses insurers such as Abbey Legal Protection, Axa and QBE Insurance (Europe). The Motor Insurers Bureau and claims administrators Broker Direct Plc also participated in the talks. They were joined by leading personal injury mediators. Following discussions among this broad spectrum of individuals the six mediators (see below) agreed to form the new organisation, on a pilot basis, to make mediation the resort of choice in personal injury claims.

They recognised that the personal injury sector has had some fundamental issues to grapple with during the time that mediation has developed elsewhere. Professor Dame Hazel Genn's recent research ("Twisting Arms") concluded that there had been a "persistent rejection of mediation in personal injury cases." despite the general satisfaction of those clients and lawyers who used the process and despite "the potential for reducing overall costs through mediation". (See: www.justice.gov.uk/docs/

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Chairman Sir Henry Brooke

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Twisting-arms-mediation-report-Genn-et-al.pdf)

Mediation defined

Mediation can be described as a process in which a neutral person assists parties to reach a consensual solution to their dispute. The advantages of mediation over court adjudication are often said to be that:

- It is a flexible procedure applicable to a wide range of disputes;
- It can achieve creative solutions not available in court adjudication;
- It can reduce conflict;
- It is less stressful for parties than court procedures;
- It can save legal costs and lead to speedier settlements when compared with litigation procedures.

Follow-up

Any editor wishing to learn more about mediation is welcome to attend as a guest all or part of a three day training course with role plays and VIP guest speakers at 218 Strand from 7-9th November 2007. Two free places available to the professional media - telephone 0207 353 3936 to reserve a place.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

The following volunteer directors of Trust Mediation will be available between 1700 and 1800 on 18th November 2007 at 218 Strand to discuss the project:

Sir Henry Brooke	Martin Cockx	Jonathan Dingle	Judith Kelbie	Frances McCarthy	Tim Wallis
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Mediator	Mediator	Mediator	Mediator	Mediator	Mediator
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former V-P Court of Appeal	Claimant Solicitor	Personal injury Barrister	Personal injury solicitor	Claimant solicitor	former Defend- ant solicitor
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	Director, Injury Lawyers 4U	BICMA	Civil Mediation Council Board Member	former Civil Justice Council member	Civil Justice Council Member
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Clerksroom London	Amelans Manchester	218 Strand	Lyons Davidson Leeds	Pattinson Brewer London	Expedite Resolution Limited Newcastle
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0845 083 3000	0161 434 4545	0207 353 3936	0113 368 6152	020 7400 5166	01697 746 769
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Henry.Brooke@ btopenworld. com	M.Cockx@ Amelans.co.uk	Jonathan. dingle@218stra- nd.com	Jkelbie@lyons- davidson.co.uk	Fmccarthy@ pattinsonbrewer. co.uk	tim.wallis@ expediteresolu- tion.com

Trust Mediation is a not for profit company limited by guarantee. The directors will carry out their duties as directors of the company on a voluntary basis (save for reimbursement of appropriate expenses and modest payment for time spent to any director(s) who carry out any significant administrative duties).

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