

Together let's get Mediation done!



Introducing ProMediate.

I am a civil and commercial mediator and council member of the Law Society. I set up ProMediate in 2015 and we are the holders of the Personal Injury Awards 2019 Mediation Achiever of the Year Award 2019, which we won because of our commitment to diversity. ProMediate runs the Manchester Mediation Pilot and I am on the CJC Judicial Liaison Committee. We have a panel of 53 mediators and the panel is very diverse by contrast with other panels.

In order to be successful, mediation providers and their mediators need the support of the CMC to help to increase the take-up of mediation and to publicise mediation more widely. We need the CJC's report on mediation to be implemented as soon as possible and to support a change from the current "opt in" system to an "opt out" system. ProMediate was previously on the board until it was restructured and the number of board members was reduced. We supported that change but since that happened we have not seen many improvements save for the new website being activated.

ProMediate is a training provider and we provide observations to new mediators, increasing the membership of the CMC, but we are concerned about the number of mediators being trained which is in inverse proportion to the number of mediations available to new mediators to develop their careers.

We also think that the benefits of being a CMC member need to be improved, which is why I volunteered to head up a member benefits subcommittee. If ProMediate was elected to the board we would be a strong voice for members and try to get those ideas implemented including:

- A members survey to include analysis of numbers of mediations carried out and sectors similar to CEDR "audit". Survey to ask members what they most want from the CMC.
- A password protected for members noticeboard on the website for posting available opportunities to join a panel, to observe a mediation, events etc.
- Monthly newsletter to members and businesses. (Mediation Messenger no longer seems to be being produced)
- Improving the mediation directory to include separate provider directory and to allow for multiple post codes and areas of expertise.
- Discounted mediation venues in London and elsewhere (speak to IDRC/CEDR/Law Society/HMCTS) HMCTS provides free use of conference rooms for mediation at the Manchester Civil Justice Centre.
- CMC to take out professional subscription to Zoom videoconference facility for use by members for online mediation by members.
- A suite of standard precedents including mediation agreement and settlement agreements.
- Regular press releases on high profile cases –articles and interviews in publications.
- Campaign to "instruct a CMC mediator"
- Google Adwords – advertising CMC and directory - improving internet search results
- Video promoting mediation on website
- Conference-aimed at users- lawyers and HR professionals not mediators, for networking.
- Helpline for mediators for procedures or ethics
- CPD / Training in other sectors of mediation. Networking events for business/lawyers– meet the mediators.

Vote for ProMediate and together we can get mediation done!