

CMC Conference 2023

Insight & Innovation

15 & 16 November
12.30pm – 5.15pm
Online

Your online hosts are
Mia Forbes Pirie & Audrey Dorival

Join us from 12.30pm for *Making Connections*, which offers you the chance to chat to colleagues before the formal start of the conference at 1pm.

There is also a free networking & drinks event being held at 39 Essex Chambers on 15 November at 6.30 pm. Book your free ticket **here**.

The CMC Conference 2023 is
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CMC Conference 2023 Insight & Innovation **Day 1**

Start in Main Conference Room

12:30 - 1:00

Making Connections - Pre-conference Chat

1:00 - 1:10

Welcome

1:10 - 1:40

Opening Speech - The Rt Hon Alex Chalk KC MP,
Lord Chancellor and Secretary of State for Justice

1:40 - 2:10

CMC Updates

2:10 - 3:00

Neurodiversity in Mediation

3:00 - 3:20

Break

3:20 - 4:20

Room 1
Consigning
Halsey to
History?

Room 2

Peer
Mediation in
Schools

Room 3

Workplace:
Neuro-
diversity
Panel

Room 4

SEND
Mediation
Users

Return to Main Conference Room

4:25 - 5:10

Learning from Complaints

5:10 - 5:15

Day 1 Close

6:30 - 8:30

Drinks & networking event at 39 Essex Chambers

CMC Conference 2023 Insight & Innovation **Day 2**

Start in Main Conference Room

12:30 - 1:00

Making Connections - Pre-conference Chat

1:00 - 1:30

Opening Speech - Chris Straker: The Possibilities of Restorative Schools

1:30 - 2:30

Learning from Mediating between Armed Groups

2:30 - 2:50

Break

2:50 - 3:50

Room 1

Commercial
Mediation
Panel

Room 2

Making
Integrated
Mediation
Work

Room 3

The Cost of
Community
Conflict

Room 4

Mandatory
Mediation
in the
Workplace

Return to Main Conference Room

3:55 - 4:40

What's next? Opportunities for Mediation

4:40 - 4:45

Conference Close

5:00 - 6:00

CMC AGM (*On a separate link sent to CMC members*)



Learning from Mediating between armed groups, when your BATNA is a war; lessons learned from the front line – Peter Marsden

Protagonists in armed conflict might seem implacably hostile, and warfare appears an extreme example of irretrievable breakdown of relationships. Yet even in a live conflict, there are exciting opportunities to find mutually beneficial breakthroughs. And the tools used in peacebuilding can be usefully employed in complex mediation in more domestic disciplines, and vice versa. *On day 2, 1.30pm*

The possibilities of restorative schools: Amplifying the voices of young people and families – Chris Straker

The session will explore what a restorative school is; how it can enable students and parents to own and resolve their own conflict situations; and the importance of an entwined multi-agency response. *Opening speech on day 2, 1pm*

Implementing Mediation in the NHS – Jenny Owen

An overview of the work done in one NHS Hospital Trust to raise the profile of mediation and conflict coaching and enable all staff to access high quality conflict resolution and communication support in a timely way. 'Mediation' has been offered in NHS settings for many years, and has a mixed reputation among staff. Addressing misconceptions, and embedding mediation into policies and processes is key to the success and reputation of mediation. *On day 2, 3.55pm*

Neurodiversity in mediation: How can mediation be made better for parties who are neuro divergent? – Sarah O'Connor

The session takes a broad look at the varying types of neurodiversity and the mediation process. Sarah suggests ways to make practical changes and implement strategies to make the mediation process more inclusive for neurodivergent individuals. *On day 1, 1.40pm*

Learning from complaints – John Anderson

Outline the purpose and function of professional regulation, the role and operation of the Conduct and Discipline Committee and seek involvement from mediator members in the CDC's work either as Independent Investigators or as CDC panel members. *On day 1, 4.25pm*

Sessions

Peer mediation: how to make mediation cool in schools – Dave Walker & Mel Bruce

Training young people in conflict resolution brings benefits to the educational environment as well as life skills to the young people who attend. But how do you encourage school engagement and young people to participate in these vital programmes? This session will address those crucial questions to support greater take up of peer mediation projects.

On day 1, 3.20pm

The Cost of Community Conflict – Victoria Harris & Joanna Gosling

The most important cost of conflict is the deep distress it brings. In a very real sense that cost is unquantifiable. However, in another sense the cost of conflict can be examined in terms of money spent by local and national government to respond to the damage caused by conflict. In areas such as healthcare, policing, education and housing there are bills to be paid and while conflict is not the only reason for damage to the social fabric it unquestionably plays a role. In this session Joanna Gosling will be interviewing Victoria Harris on her findings. *On day 2, 2.50pm*

Commercial Mediation: What Users Really Want – Panel with Carolyn Jones, Tom Bedford, Will Sefton, Clare Stothard & Nicky Doble

This panel of lawyers who mediate regularly share thoughts on what they are looking for from mediation and mediators. An invaluable insight for commercial mediators into what the clients would like. *On day 2, 2.50pm*

What's Next? Opportunities for Mediation

- CMC Student Competition Winner
- Implementing Mediation in the NHS – Jenny Owen
- Elder Mediation – Helen Harnett and Brian O'Neill from Later Life Mediation
- The Value of Mediation Skills in Prisons – Colin Bourne

On day 2, 3.55pm

The Value of Mediation Skills in Prisons – Colin Bourne

Colin will speak about the work of Yorkshire Mediation delivering training in mediation skills to prison officers and prisoners as part of violence reduction strategies. This initiative, which has been running for a number of years, is continuing and being expanding to more prisons, evidencing the success of this innovative training programme. *On day 2, 3.55pm*



CMC Updates – Nicolas Fournier, Paul Adams, Hetti Jackson-Stops, Victoria Harris & Dionne Dury

A great opportunity for senior members of the CMC Board & Executive, to update members on the plethora of CMC initiatives that are currently underway, across the full spectrum of mediation specialisms. *On day 1, 2.10pm*

Dispute Resolution and 'Non-Consensual/Mandatory' Mediation in the Workplace – Dionne Dury, Stewart Gee, Benjamin Burgher, Robin Somerville & Camilla Palmer

The panel will discuss recent developments in non-consensual mediation as well as what integrated mediation of civil claims means for ADR in the resolution of employment and workplace disputes, the new presidential guidance on ADR and approaches in the judiciary to dispute resolution, what we can expect to see in the future regarding mediation of employment disputes and whether there needs to be a cultural shift away from a grievance based culture to a resolution based one. The discussion will be chaired by Dionne Dury, Module Leader for Employment Law and Director of Equality, Diversity & Inclusion at the University of East Anglia, accredited workplace mediator and Chair of the CMC's Workplace and Employment Committee.

On day 2, 2.50pm

Championing Neurodivergent Employees in Workplace Mediation – Dionne Dury, Alison Love, Rebecca Varrall and Louise Lawrence

This workshop brings together a range of experience from mediation to clinical psychology and will explore how neurodiversity may impact on workplace conflict and workplace mediation. With the use of a scenario, the session will include a discussion where mediators can share their knowledge and experience on

- How neurodiversity may present in a mediation session;
- What kind of situations may arise?;
- What a mediator might need to think about in managing mediation sessions;
- How to ensure that access to mediation and the process is itself is inclusive so that all concerned can fully engage in positively resolving conflict and better understanding differences.

On day 1, 3.20pm



Making Integrated Mediation Work – Roger Levitt, Andy Rogers & Charlotte Steinfeld

A practical session to consider what Integrated mediation might look like. The session will focus on the challenges of reluctant parties in mediation and will talk through three hypothetical cases to try and generated ideas to deal with challenges.

On day 2, 2.50pm

SEND Mediation: Working Towards Effective Resolution – Host Dominic Collis, Martha Monday, Tarun Ghosh, Nicola Cleaver, Susanna Diegel

The Panel will be discussing topics linked to the Department for Educations response to the recent SEND Consultation 'Green Paper'- 'SEND Review: Right support, Right place, Right time'. An interactive session, where a panel member will introduce a topic, which will be briefly discussed and then will be opened up to the floor for open discussion and questions. The following topics will be discussed:

- Inconsistencies and the standardisation with the SEND framework
- Strengthening the SEND mediation process and promoting the benefits of SEND mediation
- The potential, and wide-ranging impact, of the DfE's proposals for mandatory SEND mediation

On day 1, 3.20pm

Consigning Halsey to History? What Merthyr Tydfil Means for Mediation – Kelly Stricklin-Coutinho & Rebecca Clark

Earlier this year the CMC, CIArb and CEDR, the leading commercial mediation organisations in the UK, united to intervene in the Court of Appeal case 'Churchill v Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council'. The aim was to challenge the Halsey ruling, a significant legal decision that considered the compulsion of parties to mediate as a violation of their right to a fair trial. The case was heard in front of the Court of Appeal on 8-10 November and a ruling is to be expected shortly. Rebecca Clark, Chair of the CMC, and Kelly Stricklin-Coutinho, who was instructed as a barrister for the case, will discuss history being made with this case.

On day 1, 3.20pm

Speakers



Audrey Dorival
CO-HOST



Mia Forbes Pirie
CO-HOST



Helen Harnett



Brian O'Neill



Colin Bourne



Henrietta Jackson-Stops



Roger Levitt



Victoria Harris



Dominic Collis



Kelly Stricklin-Coutinho



Rebecca Clark



Nicolas Fournier



Andy Rogers



Paul Adams



Chris Straker



John Anderson

Speakers



Mel Bruce



Dave Walker



Peter Marsden



Jenny Owen



Sarah O'Connor



Dionne Dury



Alison Love



Alex Chalk



Tom Bedford



Carolyn Jones



Joanna Gosling



Will Sefton



Clare Stothard



Martha Monday



Benjimin Burgher



Robin Somerville

Speakers



Rebecca Varrall



Louise Lawrence



Nicola Cleaver



Tarun Ghosh



Charlotte Steinfeld



Susanna Diegel



Nicky Doble



Camilla Palmer



Stewart Gee