



Core announces appointment of Morag Wise QC as member of its group of mediators

Leading mediation service, Core Mediation (part of the Core Solutions Group) has announced the appointment of **Morag Wise QC** to its group of mediators.

Morag Wise is a trained mediator, having undertaken Core's flagship mediation training course, and has assisted in a number of mediations in the past year. Having practised at the Scottish Bar since 1993, Morag is recognised as a leading specialist in family and matrimonial matters. According to Chambers UK Guide to the Legal Profession, there is "near universal acclaim" that she is "without doubt the very top advocate" in her field.

Her expertise brings real benefits when mediation is used in addressing financial and property issues on separation and divorce and in other situations of difficulty in family relationships.

She said: "I believe that the Core approach to mediation, with excellent preparation strategies and the intimate involvement of the parties' solicitors whenever required, offers real benefits in family matters where there are significant financial, business or property differences or disputes. These will include financial provision on separation, divorce and dissolution of civil partnerships and other situations where there has been a breakdown in family relationships."

John Sturrock, Core's Chief Executive, said: "Core's mediators have considerable experience in property, partnership, company, commercial, employment and other situations which often involve intimate personal, business and family relationships. The confidential and constructive engagement which mediation offers is ideal for difficult situations which can arise for example in administering executors, trusts and estates, often between generations. Morag's outstanding experience in the family area will offer clients the benefits of mediation with someone who has a deep understanding of family issues."

The initiative has been well received:

Rachael Kelsey, a partner in Pagan Osborne and accredited Family Law Specialist and Family Mediator commented:

"The new Mediation in Family Matters service offered by Core is a hugely valuable addition to the existing range of alternative dispute resolution methods that exist for separating individuals and is very much welcomed by me, both as a family lawyer and mediator; Core have managed to put together a fantastic team of mediators and have developed a genuinely innovative structure in terms of existing Scottish family mediation that will provide a flexible and constructive way for separated couples to resolve financial issues. I am delighted that the clients that I work with will now be able to enjoy, in family mediation, the professionalism that others in the commercial sector have experienced for so long from Core."



Philip Thornton, senior partner of Russel and Aitken said:

"I spend a good deal of my time trying to encourage family law clients to find ways of resolving their differences without resorting to the courts. The existence of a high quality mediation service dealing with financial disputes is in my view a welcome addition to the range of agencies to whom we can refer. If clients find it difficult to negotiate settlements through their lawyers a mediation session could be beneficial and the costs easily justified compared with the alternative. Having a mediator with the gravitas of Morag Wise would be seen in a very positive light."

Alasdair Loudon, Head of Family Law at Turcan Connell, commented:-

"I greatly welcome the introduction of a mediation service in Family Law cases in which the parties are legally represented. This overcomes the concern that the less assertive party may be coerced into an unfair settlement. It also offers an opportunity for a couple to resolve matters arising from their separation in a structured process but without the trauma or expense of court proceedings."

If you have a dispute or difference which might benefit from mediation, please contact Core to discuss.

We offer a without commitment initial meeting to consider whether and how the involvement of a mediator might add value.

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