

IN PLACE OF STRIFE

The Mediation Chambers



Amanda Bucklow FCI Arb (Mediation)

'Former City trader Amanda Bucklow of In Place of Strife has established a first-class reputation in all sizes and types of dispute. Clients value her 'creativity' and 'commercial flair, talent for lateral thinking' and considerable persuasive powers. Among mediators she is known for her facilitative, psychology-based approach to unlocking disputes, and enjoys an enviable settlement record.' **Legal 500 2010**

Amanda Bucklow is regarded as an 'exceptional mediator'. 'Firm but facilitative', she is rated for her 'great stamina, perseverance and patience' and 'non-confrontational' style. Her 'uncanny ability to read the underlying dynamics of a dispute', combined with a strong commercial background, make her a top choice for 'complex mediations requiring advanced skills'. **Legal 500 2009**

'This independent commercial mediator is widely praised for her impressive capability in regulated infrastructure sectors such as rail and telecoms, in which she is considered "ahead of the pack," and in employment disputes. Interviewees lauded her as "a Renaissance woman, hugely skilled with a disarming and matter-of-fact manner, and an enormous background knowledge." They highlighted her deft handling of highly sensitive and complex mediations, as well as her contribution to the 'industry thought process' through papers and conference appearances.' **Chambers 2009**

Amanda's mediation practice spans more than 15 years and over 700 disputes making her one of the most experienced mediators in the UK. She mediates a wide range of commercial disputes and employment related matters including discrimination and dismissal. She has notable expertise in transport, regulated industries, safety and risk, IT and financial services and first hand experience as an international negotiator, employer (SME) and main board director of a public limited company.

Sectors:

Aviation
Rail
Shipping
Transport Planning
Information Technology
Telecommunications
Commodities / Financial services
Automotive and Engineering
Education (secondary/tertiary)
Manufacturing / Retail
Fashion

Areas of Law and specialist knowledge:

Commercial contracts (including sale of goods)
Partnership disputes (Professional Services and small or family business)
Mergers & Acquisitions, Joint Ventures
Employment (inc Public Disclosure, Disability, Discrimination, Dismissal)
Professional Negligence
Personal Injury
Clinical negligence
Multi party and large groups inc. consultation on contentious issues

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Mediation Background

- Experience of cross border and international disputes
- Public sector experience – Police, Fire Service, NHS, Education (Tertiary, Secondary) including PPP and PFI.
- Extensive experience of managing large groups (up to 300 people) and multi party disputes, commercial and non-commercial issues.
- Whistle-blowing.
- Highly sensitive disputes and matters of public interest.
- Disputes and dispute resolution services within regulated sectors (rail, air, shipping, communications, legal, financial services including allegations of fraud and professional misconduct).
- Extensive experience of mediating disputes which may need to be ratified 'outside the room'.
- 5 years acting as independent mediator for over 35 commercial and safety projects with Railtrack, Network Rail and Rail Safety and Standards Board during the period from 1999 to 2004 dealing with the implementation of the Cullen Report following Paddington, Hatfield and Potters Bar train crashes.
- Unions and professional bodies.
- Insolvency
- Pioneered project mediation (1998) for hard and soft projects, particularly IT.

Commercial Background

- Lead negotiator (RTZ/CRA) for annual sales 200,000 mt. zinc metal worldwide and associated logistics, foreign currency and trading portfolio.
- Disputes and claims arising out of rail maintenance contracts (Railtrack, Network Rail) and regulatory/legislative changes.
- Extensive International negotiation experience. China, Japan, North America, South America, Egypt, West Africa, India and Europe.
- Safety culture, development of national competency management system for over 30,000 risk professionals.
- Joint venture/strategic alliance. Experience of over 50 collaboration agreements.
- New market/new product development including rapid prototyping/time to market.
- International business development for large corporations and SMEs.
- Merger and acquisitions including defending aggressive takeover.
- LME trading portfolio/Foreign currency hedging and international banking.

Feedback from parties and their representatives.

"Getting any sort of agreement was a major achievement in the circumstances. This required a great deal of stamina and ongoing alertness to commercial issues in the context of government policy imperatives over a period of 5 consecutive very long days."

Senior Partner, solicitor for commercial party (multi-party dispute, World Bank appointment)

"Gold dust! Your dedication, professionalism and commitment to results - under difficult circumstances - are to be commended."

Senior Partner, Regional Law Practice

"... a remarkable understanding of the complexity of the legal, commercial and people issues." *Partner, National Law Practice*

"I consider Amanda to be one of the best mediators in the UK."

Managing Partner, City Law Firm

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“My clients were out of funds and this was their last chance. I had no hope of settlement but we did settle!”

Partner, City Law Practice

“I would certainly use the mediation process, and you, again, but, I hope, not too often!”

Operations Director, London University

“... a great gift of getting to the heart of the matter.”

Insurer, Professional Negligence

“... incisive, well timed questions.”

“... it was inspiring to see the resolution of a long-standing dispute ...”

Counsel, Personal Injury

“... very professional, outstanding communicator...”

Partner, City Law Practice

“... every mediator should prepare this well.”

Counsel, Personal Injury

“persistent.”

“instinctive and pragmatic.”

“... a real talent for engaging people.”

“I like your style, your ability to tune in to all kinds of people. You got me to re-visit my own strengths and brought out the best in me.”

Non-commercial party

“I thought the pressure you exerted was sufficient, within bounds of politeness, to trigger serious and frank discussion among the team about the real issues.”

HR Director, London University

“Showed great determination to achieve an acceptable outcome. Adapted well to the local environment [Fiji]. Insightful. Calm and appealing personality which, together with the other attributes listed above, makes Amanda a person who is particularly well suited for this type of work.”

Solicitor for commercial party (multi-party dispute, World Bank appointment)

“I saw no hope of getting all the various parties together at the same time let alone getting them to negotiate with one another. It was amazing to be part of such an efficient process.”

Managing Director, Manufacturing.

“We achieved so much in the time available. The dispute is resolved and I have a clear picture of where the business is going and what we need to do next.”

Director, Construction Group

“...carried a huge amount of information in her head. A formidable memory for detail.”

Insurer, Clinical Negligence

“... clearly very experienced. Knows her stuff.”

Partner, Insolvency Practice