

Achieving fast, innovative and cost-effective dispute resolution for businesses

Beverley Vara – Mediator

“ *She gets on top of the detail quickly and sees points that might have been missed.* ”

Chambers UK, 2019

OVERVIEW

Beverley has been listed as a leading mediator in both Chambers & Partners and Legal 500 for mediation work for a number of years. She was a litigation partner in Allen & Overy LLP until 2013 when, after 20 years practice as a litigator in the City, she transferred to the Bar to become a full time mediator. She has written a number of articles on mediation, appeared in a LNTV webinar on mediation and regularly gives seminars on mediation. The feedback she receives from solicitors representing parties in her mediations is that they, and their clients, appreciate her straight talking, practical approach and her ability to mix a rigorous legal analysis of the case with empathy to help the parties find a solution that works for all of them. Beverley mediates all types of commercial and private client disputes. She has successfully mediated disputes online as well as in the more traditional face to face format.

STYLE AND APPROACH

Beverley's style has been described as calm and authoritative with the ability to gently help the parties to reality test their respective positions with the situation calls for it. Beverley has a background in law and is very comfortable in using legal principles in mediations to test the strength of a party's position. However, she is a firm believer that the parties should be using the time to achieve a commercial settlement rather than getting bogged down in the law.

EXPERTISE

- Property
- Contract
- Banking & Finance
- Trusts
- Professional Negligence
- Construction & Engineering

EXPERIENCE

Property

- A dispute concerning terminal dilapidations amounting to a substantial 7 figure sum between the former occupier, a bank and the new owner of a large head office building.
- Dispute concerning an alleged lease of a profit a prendre, the scope and extent of demise generally and the ability of a tenant to sub-let.
- Contract.
- Dispute between service provider and its client over unpaid fees and over repudiatory breach of contract causing loss.

- Multifaceted dispute between a majority and minority shareholder concerning the financial consequences of the way the company had been run and the withdrawal of funding from the company.

Banking & Finance

- A dispute between a bank and a debtor concerning alleged breach of conditions of a large loan.
- A dispute between a bank and a corporate where a large sum of money had been appropriated by a fraudster.

Trusts

- Dispute between parties as to whether a trust had been created on the purchase of several assets in the sole name of one party with financial assistance from the other.
- Dispute over the creation and continuation of an alleged trust in the context of the alleged trustee's insolvency.

Professional Negligence

- A claim against environmental consultants for an allegedly negligent mining search which caused loss to a house builder in a substantial development.
- A claim against a valuer for over valuation of a multimillion pound property portfolio.

PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS

- Solicitor 1994-2013.
- Barrister 2013 - to date.

CAREER HISTORY

- Called to the Bar 2013, practicing as a mediator from Maitland Chambers.
- Partner Allen & Overy LLP 2003-2013.
- Associate Allen & Overy LLP 2000-2003.
- Associate Cameron Markby Hewitt, latterly Cameron McKenna 1994-1999.
- Admitted as solicitor, England and Wales, 1994.
- Trainee Cameron Markby Hewitt 1992-1994.
- College of Law, York 1990-1992.
- MPhil, Computer Speech & Language Processing, University of Cambridge, 1990.
- BSc, Mathematics, University of London, 1987. First class.

ACCREDITATION

- CEDR trained mediator, 2012.
- Registered Mediator CMC.
- Member Property Litigation Association.

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