



John Pugh-Smith FCIArb



Year of call: 1997

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John was accredited as a mediator by CEDR in 2005. He completed Advanced Mediator Training Courses in September 2007 and 2018 focussing on cross-cultural disputes and multi-party mediations amongst other topics. He is an active promoter of mediation. He is a founding member of the Planning Mediation Working Group of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (RICS) and one of the two specialist advisers to the All-Party Parliamentary Group on Alternative Dispute Resolution. He is also member of the Bar Council's ADR Panel and the Compulsory Purchase Association's ADR Sub-Committee. He is one of the Design Council's Built Environment Experts and serves on their Highways England Design Review Panel. He previously served as one the DCLG panel of "section 106 brokers" during the promotion of that initiative. As well as receiving appointments directly through 39 Essex Chambers John is also on the panels of RICS DRS and the Association of Northern Mediators (ANM). He works in association with Moothill, In Place of Strife (IPOS) and East Anglian Chambers (with whom he is an associated tenant). As well as a Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators he is a member of BIMA (Belief in Mediation and Arbitration).

As a practising barrister, John brings to his role as a successful mediator, facilitator and conflict coach his professional experience, gained over 40 years, of dealing with a wide range of clients and issues. He has been involved with mediations and facilitations relating to a diverse range of matters including:

- breach of contract
- community and church differences
- landlord and tenant
- neighbour disputes

- personal injury compensation
- planning, compulsory purchase and environmental issues
- professional indemnity

John was called to the Bar in 1977. Although he has a background in general civil litigation he has, for the last twenty years, practised mainly in the field of town and country planning, with related environmental, local government, parliamentary and property work, for the private and public sectors, and for interest groups. He has been the originating author and editor of several books for practitioners including Sweet & Maxwell's "Shackleton's Law of Meetings" (14th edn. 2017) and "Neighbours and the Law" (5th edn. 2009). Most recently, he was one of the specialist contributors to David Richbell's "How to Master Commercial Mediation" (Bloomsbury: 2015).

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