



Law Society Mediation Services

27 March 2020

Dear Colleagues

In this time of unprecedented disruption have you given thought to how to progress your contentious cases or the disputes you are handling for clients?

As you will know the Courts are now largely only dealing with emergency matters. However, this should not mean that disputes and the resolution of them should be put on hold. It is, in many cases, possible to hold an online mediation whereby a LSMS Mediator could assist parties in dispute to consider the strength and weaknesses of their case. They could confide confidentially in the Mediator as to their expectation and they could receive some assistance from an independent Mediator in analysing the risk and cost of delay and the uncertainty of waiting for an opportunity to bring the matter to Court.

Many clients might appreciate you proactively suggesting a means of advancing their case even though the Courts are largely closed. There will of course be a considerable backlog of cases to deal with whenever things return to normal.

If you have an interest in exploring the availability of an experienced LSMS online Mediator to assist in the resolution of your case please contact ann.mcmahon@lawsoc-ni.org.

This is a good opportunity for solicitors and could assist your cash flow by bringing matters to a conclusion and allowing fees to be generated. We hope that this will be of interest to many colleagues.

Yours sincerely

Brian Speers

Chair

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