



<b>CEDR Accreditation:</b>	2009
<b>CEDR Panel</b>	2024
<b>Languages:</b>	English (Conversational French & Spanish)
<b>Location:</b>	United Kingdom

***“His encouragement and focus never  
waivered from the goal of settlement”***

Client Feedback

## Roger Levitt

### Overview

Roger is a Leading Mediator (Legal 500) with 15 years mediation experience (Roger has been qualified as a commercial property solicitor for 40 years - since 2018 non-practising) He has a busy practice and is well respected by solicitors and barristers and mediation participants. He is one of a few mediators who has made the transition from transactional property law to mediation. He attracts work from all around the UK (he has mediated several disputes in Scotland)

Preparation – Roger highly values the time he takes to prepare for a mediation, including pre-mediation zooms and site visits. He gives mediation seminars to law firms and in-house teams on this and other mediation topics. He has a pragmatic approach to mediation and is acutely aware of the relationship dynamics and emotions at play. He loves mediating and works with empathy kindness and understanding.

Roger is a Fellow of the Civil Mediation Council, a Director and member of their Board and a member of their Standards and Registration Committee and Chair of their Complaints Committee. He is a member of The IMI (International Mediation Institute) RICS/PLA Panel of Boundary Dispute Mediators (a founding member), Co-author of the RICS Mediation Guide (1<sup>st</sup> Edition January 2015).



The Standing Conference of Mediation Advocates (Advisory Board) The Property Litigation Association, BIMA Founding member / Trustee (Belief in Mediation and Arbitration – a multi faith mediation group)

Roger brings his enthusiasm energy drive and passion to a wide range of commercial and property disputes. He is as comfortable working with multi- million-pound corporate disputes as he is helping SME or small partnerships in business breakdowns or equally with a boundary dispute between neighbours.

With a +75% success rate at the meeting, Roger finds that most unresolved cases then settle in the days or weeks following. Sometimes the disputes have lasted 5-10 years before mediation

Roger is pleased to mediate face to face or online as the needs of the participants require. He also is happy to co-mediate if the need arises, particularly if the dispute is multi party, or will benefit from mediators with complementary skills and disciplines.

## Professional Background

Roger worked as a commercial property solicitor for 34 years, as a partner in West End and City firms. For the last 15 years Since 2009 Roger has developed his mediation practice, (until 2018 alongside working as a solicitor) and since 2018 he has been mediating full time. He mediates all types of commercial, private client, property, insolvency, professional negligence and breach of contract disputes.

## Expertise

- Board and shareholder disputes
- Boundary disputes and ransom strips
- Breach of contract
- Business disputes
- Construction
- Conveyancing and residential property
- Disputes with agents
- Dilapidations
- Debt Management
- Easement & rights of way
- Employment/Workplace
- Families at War over business or property, wills, trust or probate
- Finance and banking
- Franchising (including international master franchise)
- Guarantees & indemnities
- Healthcare
- Inheritance Act Claims, TOLATA.,
- Insolvency
- Insurance
- Joint ventures
- Landlord and tenant
- Local Authorities
- Mortgages
- Neighbour disputes
- Noise Nuisance
- Party walls
- Partnership agreements
- Professional negligence
- Real estate & commercial property
- Religious affected disputes
- Retail/ Restaurant
- Rights of Light
- Title
- Unfair prejudice

## Dispute Experience

### All types of Business & Commercial Disputes

Disputes including Finance, shareholder disputes, including minority shareholder prejudice claims, partnership disputes, families at war over business, joint venture disputes, Franchising (including international master franchise) Guarantees & indemnities. Recent examples: -

- Insolvent company, wrongful trading, director's liability
- Dispute over running of care homes
- Dispute over business and property
- Dispute over partnership and family business
- Shareholders / directors loan
- Disputes over various contracts
- Commission, breach of contract
- Joint Venture / Construction
- Unpaid debts / return of cars
- Purchase of business
- Franchise misrepresentation
- Food business / non-competition
- Bankruptcy / Property / Beneficial Interests
- Commercial / Fraud
- Directors / Shareholders / Termination
- Bank Guarantee
- Pension / Insurance / Property Investment
- Shareholders Agreement- Restrictive Covenants
- Master Franchise

### Property and Development (claims re Sale and purchase)

Various claims between purchasers and sellers of land including for misrepresentation and for failure to complete. Claims re developments including commercial and residential sites. Recent examples:-

- Construction dispute between multiple parties over refurbishment of central London property
- Dispute over estate of houses, common facilities, access
- Provision of utilities in commercial building.
- Sale of an estate property
- Local Authority – provision of services
- Property construction dispute with football club
- Property, neighbour development
- Partnership breakdown / Property

- Mortgage / Insolvency / Property Development
- Property Development / Contract / Specific Performance / Local Authority
- Misrepresentation / flooding
- Equestrian / Contractual / Property

## **Neighbour/Boundaries**

Various disputes between neighbours, both residential and commercial, concerning rights of way, boundaries, rights to light, trespass, other easements, restrictive covenants, nuisance, negligence.

Recent examples:-

- Landlord and Tenant/ Licensor and Licensee - Various landlord and tenant disputes including service charge, breach of covenant, forfeiture (including wrongful forfeiture, failure to consent to alienation or alterations, dilapidations, exercise of break options, derogation from grant and concerning lease interpretation. Claims involving serviced office providers concerning payment of the licence fee and the provision of services. • Many different claims under the Landlord and Tenant Act 1954, both opposed and unopposed. Retail /restaurant

## **Wills, Trusts & Probate**

TOLATA claims and/or claims for a constructive trust. Families disputing wills. Recent examples:-

- Dispute by siblings over a Will
- Family dispute over a Will

## **Professional negligence**

Claims against various professionals including solicitors, estate agents, accountants surveyors, financial advisors. Claims of professional negligence and breach of directors' duties against former directors by Insolvency practitioners. Professional Negligence - Development Site Boundary. Professional Negligence – Interior Design

## **Personal Style**

Roger's style is assertively facilitative: That means he is proactive but calm and patient. He can be persistent when necessary. He knows when to challenge and when to listen. He is used to dealing with high emotion, in commercial or personal disputes. He encourages parties to air their grievances before and at the start of the mediation, so they can then work in a collaborative way towards settlement.

## Feedback

- *“As a law firm partner I have been involved in multiple mediations with Roger over many years. I find that his early, pro-active engagement maximises settlement prospects on the day”.*
- *At the mediation he takes time to listen to parties and put them at ease. His calm but determined manner is very effective in moving parties beyond previous conflict and on to the benefits of reaching an agreement.*
- *“As a solicitor who has worked with Roger in mediations I have found him to be engaging, inciteful and effective in bringing the parties together to resolve their dispute”.*
- *“I would have no hesitation in recommending Roger as an experienced and skilled mediator.”*
- *“Roger was **excellent** and we are pleased we chose an **experienced commercial, property lawyer** as this certainly gave me and my clients the confidence of knowing that he was on top of his briefing papers and the law.”*
- *“**His encouragement and focus never waivered from the goal of settlement”***
- *“When difficulties arose towards the end of the scheduled session, Roger **calmly and patiently** continued to go to and fro between the parties’ houses for a further three hours, without putting anyone under any time pressure, until a settlement was reached and the loose ends tied up. The **confidence** he conveyed that a resolution was possible went a long way towards achieving this outcome.”*
- *“Roger is both very professional and personable. He really gets to the core of the situation, is very thorough and ultimately strives for a beneficial solution by using his expertise. I would highly recommend Roger for anyone in need of his services”.*
- *“An extremely practical approach. A willingness to understand the issues and think ‘outside of the box’ to try and help find a solution.”*