

Independent Commercial Mediation with Colin David Russ

Colin Russ is a leading, independent commercial mediator. He is a Top Ranked Commercial Mediator in Band 1 of the Chambers UK Guide 2026 and is a Top Tier Hall of Fame Commercial Mediator in the Legal 500 Guide 2026.



Hall of Fame Mediators are at the very top of the profession, widely known and respected by peers and clients for their longstanding involvement in market-leading work..

Originally qualified as a lawyer, Colin practiced as a commercial litigation lawyer for over 20 years, ultimately as Head of Litigation at the Birmingham office of global law firm DLA Piper. After his interest in the mediation process grew, Colin gained his Mediator Accreditation and left DLA (as it was then) to set up his own mediation practice - **Colin David Russ t/a CDR**.

Over the last 26 years Colin has built CDR into a thriving, independent commercial mediation practice in the UK. His clients include many of the UK's top law firms and Colin has considerable expertise in high value multi-party mediations, involving complex multi-issue disputes. To date, Colin has completed close to **2,000 mediations**, with the vast majority of these achieving successful resolution on the day.

Colin has mediated disputes across a broad range of subjects and has developed particular expertise in relation to disputes arising out of:

- Cladding Claims / Fire Safety
- Commercial Contracts
- Construction Disputes
- Employment Disputes
- Financial & Tech Services
- Insolvency Issues
- Intellectual Property
- Professional Negligence
- Real Estate
- Shareholder/Partnership Disputes

"Colin Russ is a pre-eminent commercial mediator with outstanding experience across various sectors."

Chambers Guide

"Colin Russ has the people skills and gravitas to manage complex clients and competing demands, particularly during multi-party disputes."

Legal 500 Guide

Colin David Russ Commercial Mediator

Colin is known for being one of the most technology-embracing mediators in the UK. He launched CDR Remote at the start of the COVID pandemic and this continues to be a popular option alongside in-person mediations.

This pioneering service enabled Colin to deliver effective mediation remotely using a secure video conferencing platform. Proving to be hugely popular with both law firms and their clients, even after in-person mediators were allowed again, Colin continues to run many of his mediations online each year.

Colin's ability to embrace technology doesn't just stop at online mediations, he also has his availability calendar in real-time on his website. This enables clients to check if Colin is available and send a booking request via the website. Colin is also completely transparent about his fees - clearly listing his rates on his website and CV. Even though Colin has offered these additional services for many years, and they work well for both Colin and his clients, he remains one of only a small handful of mediators to do so.

Highly focused on the quality of the mediation process and to ensure the mediation has the maximum chance of success, Colin guarantees not to accept another mediation appointment the day before or day after an existing mediation commitment. This ring-fenced approach to bookings ensures full preparation ahead of the mediation and allows time to be available the next day, should the mediation overrun.

Please see overleaf for Colin's mediation fees.

"Colin is calm, professional, insightful and knows how to resolve complicated disputes very efficiently."

Chambers Guide

"Colin's personal approach, combined with excellent technical legal skill, makes for a persuasive and effective mediator."

Legal 500 Guide

Mediation Fees

Colin Russ is a top ranked mediator in both Chambers and Legal 500 Guides for 2026. If you would like to consider Colin Russ for your upcoming mediation, please see below for details of his current fees and terms of business.

2-Party Mediation (two separately represented parties)	£2,150 per party
<p>The fee includes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pre and post-mediation contact (and liaising between all parties as necessary) • Preparing the draft mediation agreement for approval • Up to five hours preparation/reading time • The mediation day (up to eight hours) • Travelling time to and from the mediation venue <p>Any agreed additional preparation time and/or time on the mediation day £215 p/hr per party</p>	
Half Day Mediation (two separately represented parties)	£1,500 per party
<p>The fee includes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pre and post-mediation contact (and liaising between all parties as necessary) • Preparing the draft mediation agreement for approval • Up to three hours preparation/reading time • The mediation half day (up to four hours) • Travelling time to and from the mediation venue <p>Any agreed additional preparation time and/or time on the mediation day £215 p/hr per party</p>	
3-Party Mediation (three separately represented parties)	£1,850 per party
<p>The fee includes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pre and post-mediation contact (and liaising between all parties as necessary) • Preparing the draft mediation agreement for approval • Up to six hours preparation/reading time • The mediation day (up to eight hours) • Travelling time to and from the mediation venue <p>Any agreed additional preparation time and/or time on the mediation day £150 p/hr per party</p>	
4-Party Mediation (four separately represented parties)	£1,700 per party
<p>The fee includes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pre and post-mediation contact (and liaising between all parties as necessary) • Preparing the draft mediation agreement for approval • Up to seven hours preparation/reading time • The mediation day (up to eight hours) • Travelling time to and from the mediation venue <p>Any agreed additional preparation time and/or time on the mediation day £125 p/hr per party</p>	

“Colin is the go-to mediator for big commercial litigation.”

Chambers Guide

“Colin has gravitas, his experience is palpable, and he takes no nonsense.”

Legal 500 Guide

“I would also like to take this opportunity to thank you, the administration has been first class.”

Lawyer Client

Additional Charges

- Travel expenses and disbursements
- VAT at the standard rate will be added to all fees and disbursements