Mediation, Negotiation and Conflict Management Skills

Modules 1, 2 and 3

Course Leaders

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The course will be led by **John Sturrock QC** who, as the founder and CEO of the Core Solutions Group, has pioneered mediation and high quality training in business, the professions and commerce in Scotland and elsewhere. Described in Legal 500 as "universally regarded as Scotland's finest mediator" and in Band 1 in Best of the UK Mediators in Chambers Guide, John has been involved in a broad range of disputes in the public and private sectors in the UK, Europe and elsewhere.

He is an internationally recognised coach and facilitator in the fields of negotiation, mediation and communication and has worked with senior executives, judges, top athletes and parliamentarians. He is described as "one of the best teachers of mediation". He became a Queen's Counsel in 1999, is a Visiting Professor at Strathclyde University and, as the first Director of Training and Education in the Faculty of Advocates from 1994 to 2002, designed and led the Scottish Bar's award-winning advocacy skills programme. He is a faculty member with CEDR and trained in negotiation at Harvard University. He was named Specialist of the Year at the Scottish Legal Awards in 2003 and Mediator of the Year at the Law Awards of Scotland in 2009. He was awarded the Honorary Degree of Doctor of Laws from Edinburgh Napier University in 2010.

John will be joined by various colleagues from Core's group of coaches:

Liz Rivers was a commercial litigation lawyer with Eversheds in London for 10 years. One of the first people in the UK to become an accredited mediator, she has been mediating for nearly two decades and specialises in workplace and team conflicts. She is recognised by Chambers Guide to the Legal Profession for her expertise in this area and for her innovation and creativity. She is also a highly experienced executive coach, working with senior leaders and rising talent in a wide variety of organisations. She has been a trainer of mediation skills since 1993 and has delivered courses throughout Europe and in Hong Kong and Nigeria.

Hugh Donald OBE was formerly Managing Partner and Chairman of the Scottish legal firm of Shepherd and Wedderburn. He specialises in medical and professional indemnity matters. He is accredited by the Law Society of Scotland as a specialist in medical negligence. Hugh has been involved in mediation since the mid 1980's through the work of family mediation in Scotland. He is accredited as a mediator with Core, has practised for many years as a mediator and was formerly Chairman of Family Mediation Scotland. He has worked with Core on various courses, including conflict management in the workplace. Hugh is a Consultant to the Church of Scotland supporting the development of "The Place for Hope" initiative addressing conflict in the church and with a vision of creating a Centre for Peace and Reconciliation.

Charlie Woods was formerly Director of Strategy and Chief Economist at Scottish Enterprise. Charlie has vast experience of the public sector, industry and commerce gained over many years working in the public and private sectors ranging from SMEs to many different sizes of organisation and government. Working as a mediator with Core, he has been developing strategies for working with organisations and business to avoid and minimise conflict and disputes before they escalate and to enhance individual competence in dealing with difficult situations. He has been involved in a number of Core courses in recent years as a trainer and coach. Charlie is a Visiting Professor at Strathclyde University Business School - European Policies Research Centre, and a freelance Economic Development/Strategy Consultant.

Charles Dodson has been involved in mediation development since the mid 1980's and was one of CEDR's original directors. He has acted as a mediator in a broad range of commercial mediations from multi-million pound multiparty disputes to Central London County Court cases. He has been listed as a "Leading Individual" in the mediation section of Chambers since 1997/8. He has been a trainer and assessor on international training courses on a regular basis over the last seven years including in the UK, Switzerland, Italy and Ireland and has run mediation awareness courses for various law firms, the Jersey judiciary and Nestle worldwide in-house legal department.