**Barrister Mediation and Arbitration Service**

**How it Operates**

1. The mediators and arbitrators introduced to you by the Barrister Mediation and Arbitration Service [BMAS] are all independent self-employed mediators. Therefore, it is the individual mediator you appoint that will be responsible for managing your mediation hearing.
2. Unlike other mediation providers, there are no Administration Fees payable to the BMAS when using a BMAS mediator.
3. The Bar Council of Northern Ireland sets out minimum practice standards, which are onerous to achieve, and which must be evidenced by way of seeking accreditation from the Bar Council before being able to list on the BMAS online Directory. Each practitioner is required to re-accredit annually to ensure his or her skills and experience remain of the requisite standard. The Accreditation Criteria are published within the pages of this Directory. All barrister mediators must also hold a current and valid practising certificate for the Bar of Northern Ireland.
4. All Barrister Mediators listing on the BMAS Directory are bound by the Bar of Northern Ireland’s Code of Conduct. This can be viewed on the Bar of Northern Ireland’s website at [www.barofni.org](http://www.barofni.org) .
5. With the agreement of all parties in your dispute you can appoint any of the BMAS mediators as your mediator. All of them have been responsible for writing their own profiles, signposting their experience and approach to alternative dispute resolution. Each of them will be amenable to have an introductory discussion with you or your solicitor depending on the route you take to use Alternative Dispute Resolution services.
6. Fees will be arranged between the parties and the mediator appointed. The BMAS provides some indicative fee guidance, but please note, it is only indicative as each mediator will operate their own fee model.
7. It is the responsibility of the parties or their legal representatives to choose and book the venue (and any catering required) for the mediation. The BMAS mediators recommend the use of the only bespoke ADR venue in Northern Ireland, The Resolution Centre. Please make your enquiries by emailing [contact@theresolutioncentre.co.uk](mailto:contact@theresolutioncentre.co.uk) or call +44 028 9026 5700.