

Andrew Parsons

Self-employed junior over 7 years in practice

About Me, My Practice and Professional Activities

I'm a barrister, mediator, arbitrator and negotiator, with about 40 years' of experience in business, property, financial and commercial dispute resolution work, domestically and internationally. I've pioneered hybrid dispute resolution processes and conducted them in different cultural contexts. I'm known as "THE QUIET MAN ON THE CORNER" in dispute resolution. An important thing to know about me is that I sketch cartoons and write jokes and stand-up routines.

My involvement with alternative dispute resolution (ADR) goes back a long way. In 1985, I was called to the Bar. In 1998, I was one of the first English barristers to become an accredited commercial mediator. For over 20 years, I've served on the Bar Council ADR Committee, (now Panel). With others, I've tried my best to ensure that the Bar adapts to and prospers in the fast-developing world of dispute resolution. Recently, I joined the Bar Council International Committee Africa Sub-Group.

Over the years, I've joined Bar Council delegations to different countries and spoken at events. This year, I helped to organise and spoke at two Bar Council events during London International Disputes Week. One was about the importance of professional ethics in international ADR, the other was about AI and ADR. To find out more about me, please look me up on LinkedIn.

What I Can Offer the Bar Council

I don't think I am a "usual" candidate to serve on the Bar Council, but if elected I think I could make a useful contribution, due to my knowledge of and experience in different dispute resolution processes.

In summary, in the now fast changing world of dispute resolution, I think I am well placed to help the Bar Council and the Bar. Importantly, I can provide such help keeping a sense of humour!

Motivation for Standing

My key motivation is to give something back and hopefully to help the Bar Council and other members of the Bar navigate and adapt to the fast-changing world of dispute resolution.

Ideally, I should like to help more barristers develop a practice in ADR and to develop an international practice.