



## Barrister profile

# Helen Curtis



## Practice

Helen is an accredited mediator and restorative justice facilitator. With twenty years experience as a barrister, Helen's calm and assertive manner makes her an engaging and effective mediator. Her skills as a litigator are revealed in her ability to grasp complex issues in a short space of time and incisive analysis. Helen's initial years of practice included civil, crime, employment, family, housing and judicial review providing a valuable foundation to the legal frameworks within which disputes can be argued.

Helen thereafter gained more experience in areas of criminal law. Her broad range of jury trial experience from clients facing murder trials to representing families at inquests enables Helen to remain a constructive presence during mediations. This remains the case even where there is significant conflict, the stakes are high and the parties are apparently 'stuck'. Parties can have confidence that Helen is able to manage the variety of their concerns and facilitate the emergence of alternative solutions for their dispute.

Helen additionally volunteers as a mediator for LawWorks and CALM mediation. Balancing an empathetic approach with positive encouragement, Helen is noted as having 'remained unbiased', 'incredibly patient', and 'a very good listener'. Contract claims, community disputes and a variety of housing issues form the majority of mediations which reach agreement.

Helen's training remains current having completed a two-day training course in team facilitation where conflict adversely affects working relationships. She additionally maintains her interest in mental health, mentally disordered offenders where fitness to plead issues arise, inquests and judicial review. Helen continues to accept instructions in Court of Appeal criminal matters.

Helen has been an advocacy trainer for over ten years with Middle Temple.

## Publications

Family Mediation: For Better or Worse - co-author with Kate Aubrey-Johnson, LAG

## Notable Cases

Appellate

**R v Tinker** - murder conviction quashed, manslaughter substituted, fresh psychiatric evidence

**R v Dudley, Maynard & Clarke** - murder convictions quashed

## Societies

Amnesty International Lawyers Group, Civil Mediation Council, JUSTICE and Restorative Justice Council.

Profile updated January 2011

### Year of Call

1992

### Email Address

helenc@gclaw.co.uk

### Telephone

020 7993 7713

### Education

LLB (Hons)

### Languages

French (basic), Italian (basic)

### Practice Areas:

Helen Curtis is a member of the following Practice Areas:

- Civil Law
- Crime
- Inquests
- International Advice and Litigation
- Mediation
- Mental Health
- Prison Law
- Public & Administrative Law

### Garden Court Chambers

57 - 60 Lincoln's Inn Fields  
London WC2A 3LJ  
Tel 020 7993 7600  
Fax 020 7993 7700