



## PRESS STATEMENT

### Promoting alternative dispute resolution in Scotland

#### **The Chartered Institute of Arbitrators and the Law Society of Scotland announce new partnership**

The Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (CI Arb) is working in partnership with the Law Society of Scotland (LSS) to help promote the use of arbitration and other forms of alternative dispute resolution (ADR). With recent disruption to court services, ADR is an attractive option for many clients.

Often ADR may provide a speedier, more flexible and affordable solution in a less adversarial environment, conducive to retaining ongoing relationships. All solicitors should be aware of, and advising clients of, the ADR options available to them. This may be especially beneficial for SMEs who currently may not be aware of, or able to access, suitable forms of ADR to meet their requirements.

We believe that one of the best ways in which we can promote the use of ADR is to provide high quality training to enable aspiring ADR professionals to acquire the necessary skills and knowledge in this field.

Between them, CI Arb and LSS provide a range of training, qualifications and accreditations ranging from entry level learning opportunities through to CI Arb Diplomas and on to specialist accreditation by the LSS.

CI Arb provides a range of training courses leading to qualifications in arbitration, mediation and construction adjudication, and to support career development:

- [Introduction courses](#) – covering the principles, processes and procedures of ADR. These courses lead to Associate membership (ACI Arb).
- [Pathway courses](#) – supporting delegates to build their knowledge and skills in particular ADR disciplines. These courses lead to Member or Fellow status (MCI Arb or FCI Arb).
- [Diplomas](#) – in-depth training from highly experienced tutors. These prestigious Diplomas lead to Member or Fellow status (MCI Arb or FCI Arb).
- [On-demand courses](#) – ready when you are! Ranging from mediation to award writing.
- [Ongoing Learning](#) – designed to help practitioners deepen their knowledge and skills and stay informed and up-to-date.

As well as [CPD seminars and training sessions](#) in dispute resolution, the Law Society accredits those working in arbitration and mediation providing recognition for practitioners with greater experience and expertise.

- [Accredited Mediator](#) – providing accreditation for family mediators and commercial mediators
- [Accredited Specialist in Arbitration Law](#) – recognising solicitors who have a high level of expertise in arbitration law
- [Approved Solicitor Arbitrator](#) – recognising those who have achieved accreditation as an accredited specialist in arbitration law and have undertaken additional formal training such as Fellowship of the CI Arb or equivalent experience.

Catherine Dixon, Director General of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (CI Arb), said:

“CI Arb is delighted to be working with the Law Society of Scotland to raise awareness and promote the benefits of alternative dispute resolution (ADR). As a professional body and membership organisation, CI Arb offers world-class, internationally recognised training to aspiring and established ADR professionals. CI Arb's growing worldwide and diverse membership of over 17,000 professionals operating in 150 jurisdictions through 42 branches, sets the standard for excellence in ADR globally.”

Paul Mosson, Executive Director of Member Services and Engagement at the Law Society of Scotland, said:

“We know that there is a growing interest in alternative forms of dispute resolution among our members, and it is important for solicitors to be aware of those options and be able to offer them to clients. We are committed to helping our members extend and refine their skills in all forms of ADR. By working with the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators, we can provide a broader range of training and accreditation which will ultimately better equip solicitors with the relevant knowledge and skills.”

## **About the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators**

The [Chartered Institute of Arbitrators](#) (CI Arb) is a global centre of excellence for the practice and profession of ADR, championing all aspects of dispute resolution across arbitration, mediation and adjudication. It is committed to promoting ADR and the benefits it brings to society and economies across the world.

CI Arb has a growing membership of over 17,000 professionals and over 10,000 students based across 150 jurisdictions, supported by an international network of 42 Branches including our well-established [Scottish Branch](#).

It supports its members, from students to experienced Fellows, at every step of their ADR journey, offering:

- Opportunities to build skills and achieve career goals through learning, mentorship and insightful publications.
- Global and local ways to connect with each other, through its Branches, events and networking opportunities.
- A voice for its members, representing the profession when it counts.
- Guidance to help its members adapt as the world changes and ensure ADR practice reflects the society it represents.

## **About the Law Society of Scotland**

The [Law Society of Scotland](#) is the professional body for over 12,000 Scottish solicitors and was established in 1949. We have an overarching objective of leading legal excellence, and strive to excel and to be a world-class professional body, understanding and serving the needs of our members and the public. As part of our regulatory duties, we set and uphold standards to ensure the provision of excellent legal services and ensure the public can have confidence in Scotland's legal profession.

The Law Society also has a statutory duty to work in the public interest, a duty which we are strongly committed to achieving through our work to promote a strong, varied and effective legal profession working in the interests of the public and protecting and promoting the rule of law. We seek to influence the creation of a fairer and more just society through active engagement with the Scottish and United Kingdom governments, parliaments, wider stakeholders and our membership.

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