



THE FMA ANNUAL CONFERENCE

SUSTAINING THE MOMENTUM



28TH-29TH  
SEPTEMBER 2022

KINGS COLLEGE LONDON

	<b>Day 1 - Wednesday 28th September 2022</b>
<b>09.30 – 10.00</b>	<b>Registration with tea/coffee and a place to re-connect</b>
<b>10.00 - 10.05</b>	<b>Welcome to Day 1 - FMA President, Lord Justice Moylan</b>
<b>10.05 – 11.00</b>	<b><u>Sustaining the momentum – you said/ they said/ we did.....</u></b> A review of the last year, including EDIT, the Mediators’ Green Pledge, FMA’s Agreement to Mediate, the Integrated approach, the post-lockdown building back, resources for mediators, and various consultation papers, including the opportunity to review your own year by responding to specific questions in table discussions.
<b>11.00 – 11.15</b>	<b>Break - tea/coffee</b>
<b>11.15 – 15.15, with lunch break 13.00 to 14.00</b>	<b><u>Sustaining the momentum through effective assessment:</u></b> An organic and dynamic series of discussions and presentations focusing on the assessment that happens before every mediation and then continues throughout the mediation process. Each session will contain a short presentation, an opportunity for discussion and feedback, all of varying length, curated by Philippa and Neil, with guest speakers and facilitated table discussions.  <b><u>The timetable for this section (from 11.15 to 15.15) is intended to be fluid, with a one hour lunch break from 13.00 to 14.00.</u></b>
	<b><u>1. Assessment and the expectations of others:</u></b> What do courts and referrers expect of the MIAM? What might mediators reasonably expect by way of reform of court processes in the light of the Divorce Act etc?
	<b><u>2. Assessment as effective gateway:</u></b> Red, amber and green – many of us approach our assessments, and our responsibility to offer families a real opportunity to mediate whenever that is safe, using this traffic-light idea from Lisa Parkinson as the frame – how can we make best use of it to enhance our assessments?
	<b><u>3. Ensuring safety through assessment:</u></b> How do we approach screening in assessment – what has come out of the MADA network in terms of our approach to DA? – what else do we need to do to make family mediation a safe space? How is the obligation to maintain a safe space in mediation to be balanced with the harm to children from unresolved conflict?
	<b><u>4. Assessment as triage:</u></b> What use can we make of links with the SSFAs and Family Solutions in order to give each individual family the best range of options post-assessment? How far does research into recent initiatives help us?

	<p><b>5. <u>Assessment as preparation:</u></b>  Are we able to use assessments effectively to help individual family members to understand and commit to mediation? How can we use assessments to understand better what the individual family needs in order to mediate effectively?</p> <p>a) Could the Agreement to Mediate be used differently; are there any other tools that would help?</p> <p>b) Assessment and language</p> <p>c) Preparatory meetings – what options are out there?</p>
	<p><b>6. <u>Enhanced or Extended Assessment</u></b>  How viable is it to use expanded assessment models in an effort to understand better what the individual family needs? – Current pilots/ Hubs/ Mediation in Mind/ Emotional Readiness</p>
	<p><b>7. <u>Assessment as opportunity for ambitious responses to disputes</u></b>  An introduction to an integrated approach: What different models of mediation can we offer in order to give the individual family the best prospect of accessing and benefitting from family mediation? What part could assessment play in developing these models?</p>
	<p><b>8. <u>Assessment and young people</u></b>  How could we promote CIM differently in assessment in order to give the children of the family a real opportunity to have their voice heard in mediation?</p>
	<p><b>9. <u>In-person or on-line assessment</u></b>  Do different considerations apply to the choice between on-line and in-person in relation to assessment rather than mediation? How does the choice of medium affect those elements which we now see as integral to assessment – accessibility, environmental sustainability, business sustainability, ambitious offerings, safety?</p>
<b>15.15 - 15.30</b>	<b>Break - tea/coffee</b>
<b>15.30 – 17.15</b>	<p><b><u>Sustaining momentum through the new FMC MIAMs standards.</u></b>  Having considered our creative responses to our assessment practice, how does this chime in with the new FMC MIAMs standards and guidance? Help or hindrance? With help from those who have contributed to the creation of the new standards, we'll examine the extent to which our practices may need to change – presentations and groups</p>
<b>17.15 – 17.20</b>	<b>Closing remarks - FMA President, Lord Justice Moylan</b>
<b>17.20</b>	<p><b>Close of conference</b></p> <p><b>Followed by Gala Dinner being held at the Kings College London: 19.00 for drinks, dinner at 19.30 (dress code: smart casual)</b></p>

	<b>Day 2 - Thursday 29th September 2022</b>
<b>09.30 – 10.00</b>	<b>Registration with tea/coffee</b>
<b>10.00 - 10.05</b>	<b>Welcome to Day 2 - FMA President, Lord Justice Moylan</b>
<b>10.05 – 11.05</b>	<b>John Cornwell Lecture – Sir Andrew McFarlane, President of the Family Division – “Relaunching Family Mediation”</b>
<b>11.05 – 11.20</b>	<b>Break - tea/coffee</b>
<b>11.20 – 11.35</b>	<b>The Government’s initiatives to promote family mediation – Speaker to be confirmed</b>
<b>11.35 - 12.25</b>	<b>The Mediation Voucher Scheme: presentation and discussion</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What do the numbers say and how are they being interpreted?</li> <li>• What is our experience of the scheme and what do clients say?</li> <li>• How transformative is the scheme?</li> <li>• What should happen next?</li> </ul>
<b>12.25 – 13.00</b>	<b>“What about me?” – the Family Solutions Group Report 2 years on - Presentation and discussion with Helen Adam and others</b>
<b>13.00 – 14.00</b>	<b>Buffet Lunch and Exhibition</b>
<b>14.00 – 15.30</b>	<b>Parallel workshops (Choose one from four)</b> All workshops feature skills/resources/information/strategies/theories/models that can be used in the mediation space and are presented by friends of FMA: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>The use of legal and therapy skills in the mediation space - Haema Sundram</b></li> <li>2. <b>Practical tips for mediators Working Towards Accreditation</b></li> <li>3. <b>The interface between law and mediation - Barbara Mills</b></li> <li>4. <b>Using restorative approaches in family mediation - Carlie Norris</b></li> </ol>
<b>15.30 – 15.45</b>	<b>Break – Coffee/Tea</b>

15.45 – 16.45	<p><b>Forum spaces – an opportunity to share ideas (Choose one from four)</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Living with Legal Aid – what are the challenges and how do we make it work for us and for clients? - facilitated by John Loram</b></li> <li>2. <b>Removing obstacles to career development – a look at how the pathway to accreditation might be transformed – facilitated by an FMSB rep and others</b></li> <li>3. <b>EDIT – Facilitated by Summera Kauser and guests</b></li> <li>4. <b>Integration and Change - how integral to mediation development is an “integrated approach”? – facilitated by Neil Robinson and Philippa Johnson</b></li> </ol>
16.45 - 17.25	<p><b>Creating a manifesto for change – plenary discussion of proposals that emerge from the earlier discussions</b></p>
17.25	<p><b>Closing remarks - FMA President, Lord Justice Moylan</b></p>
17.30	<p><b>Close of conference</b></p>