

ROBIN BURLEY MBE MSc FRSA

Robin is an expert in dispute resolution, an experience and accredited coach and mediator, and a partner in Eskhill & Co. He has a Masters in Mediation and Conflict Resolution. He was formerly chief executive of Edinvar, a housing and community care social enterprise. He chairs Scottish Mediation and has wide governance experience. He was made MBE in 2000 for services to housing associations and disabled people.



Mediator and Coach

Robin set up Eskhill & Co in 1998 after two decades leading the Edinvar Group, one of the UK's most innovative housing and care organisations. He chairs the Scottish Mediation Network, the umbrella body for mediation in Scotland. In 2003 Robin was joined in Eskhill & Co by Lindsay Burley who is also a coach and mediator.

Robin is a business coach to voluntary, private and public sector executives and teams. He is an experienced and skilled mediator, having been engaged in over 220 mediations. He graduated Masters with Distinction in Mediation and Conflict Resolution at the University of Strathclyde in 2013. He is on the mediator panels of the Sheriff Courts in Edinburgh and Glasgow, the Scottish Legal Complaints Commission and the NHS Complaints Service. He specialises in services relating to employment, the built environment and corporate governance. Robin is a tutor on the Law degree elective at the University of Strathclyde. He is qualified in the Myers Briggs Personality Indicator (MBTI) which he uses in coaching and mediation.

Mediation Style

Robin is a pragmatist more than a theorist in his approach and style when mediating a dispute. Theories of dispute resolution from his Masters' studies do provide a useful backdrop but an intuitive act of faith may be the game changer. It is a combination of his quiet determination and his sense of belief in better that wins through.

Previous Experience

Robin joined Edinvar Housing Association as its first Director in 1976 after leading an urban regeneration team at the Housing Corporation. He built Edinvar into a pioneering group with a reputation for fresh approaches to housing and community care.

Robin's experience includes past chair of NHS Lothian's primary & community division and its charitable foundation; advising developers on urban regeneration; running an international citizen's jury on employment and disability; and being a member of a Government review on drug and alcohol. He pioneered barrier free and telecare services for independent living. Robin was active in Rethinking Construction, chairing the Housing Forum Scottish Steering Group and the Modernising Construction Strategic Group set up by the Minister for Enterprise which was the catalyst for the Scottish Construction Forum. Robin has wide experience of environment and regeneration developments and is past chair of the Built Environment Forum Scotland.

Other Relevant Experience

Robin is experienced in governance having had several executive, non-executive and chairing roles. His former non-executive positions include a housing association, a university court, a health trust, a health board, a health charitable foundation, a community care charity, two national representative bodies and a world heritage trust and he has chaired three charities.

"Robin's patience and inherent sense of belief gave us hope that we might just get there, even when other signals perhaps said something different."

