

LAND COURT ADR PANEL OF CONVENORS

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WHAT IS THE ADR PANEL?

The Court established the ADR panel of convenors to help parties find a suitably qualified ADR practitioner. The convenors are nationally accredited and possess relevant qualifications or experience which equip them with a better understanding of:

- the circumstances of the parties and the issues likely to arise in their disputes
- the options to resolve the disputes
- the Court's processes, if the case must be heard by the Court.

There are currently 24 convenors, 16 of whom are lawyers, although four of them also hold qualifications in science or engineering. Many of the lawyers have practiced in the Land Court or have worked in relevant sectors of the economy.

The panel also includes valuers, scientists, and engineers and people with academic, business, or rural experience. A small core of convenors are based in regional centres and most are willing to travel regionally.

In February, the Court trained another dozen people who are not lawyers but are experts in relevant fields, with many years' experience. They include valuers, environmental scientists, and business advisers. Soon, an accrediting body will assess them against national mediation standards and, if accredited, they will join the panel.

WHY DID THE COURT ESTABLISH A PANEL?

The Court responded to consistent feedback from stakeholders. That they:

- want to avoid cases going to court
- want a quick and cost-effective process
- want easier access to ADR at any stage of the dispute
- want ADR practitioners who are impartial
- want ADR practitioners who understand the issues that arise in disputes about land value and mining
- want access to a choice of types of ADR, including case appraisal by experts.

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WHAT WORK WILL THE PANEL DO?

The options are:

- *pre-filing ADR:*
 - people in dispute about a matter that could come to the Court if they can't reach agreement, can agree to use an ADR convenor
 - pre-filing ADR can be mediation or case appraisal
 - parties using the negotiation process for conduct and compensation matters under the *Mineral and Energy Resources (Common Provisions) Act 2014* can:
 - agree to use an ADR convenor
 - ask the Court to nominate an ADR convenor or an ADR process (or both), if the parties cannot agree.
- *post-filing ADR:*
 - parties to a case can request referral to mediation using an interactive form on the court's website
 - the court may direct a case to mediation, in consultation with the parties.

ACCESSING THE PANEL

The Court's [website](#) contains information about [ADR](#) and the [panel](#), including the [profiles](#) of the panel members. The profiles contain a link that once selected, sends an automatically generated email to the panel list. This ensures contact between the panel list and party is efficient and effective.

All [forms](#) are interactive and can be generated, authorised, and dispatched to the Court without having to be printed, signed or scanned. The President and Principal Registrar will oversee the appointment of convenors, their professional development and will investigate and respond to any complaints.