

DR DEBBIE SCOTT

Adjudicator



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PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS

- BSc (Hons) Civil & Structural Engineering (2:1) (1990)
- MSc Construction Law and Dispute Resolution (Merit) (2018)
- PhD Geotechnical Engineering (1995)
- CEng Chartered Engineer (2002)
- FCIArb Fellow of Chartered Institute of Arbitrators (2020)
- FICE Fellow of the Institution of Civil Engineers (2021)

OTHER QUALIFICATIONS

- CIArb Construction Adjudication Module 3 – Pass 83% (2020)
- ICE Adjudicators Qualifying Exam – Pass 73% (2021)
- ICE Advanced Certificate, Law & Contract Management – Distinction 87% (2022)
- London School of Mediation – Accredited Mediator

PROFILE

Debbie is an experienced adjudicator and dispute resolver of construction and engineering disputes. Debbie is currently on a number of panels of adjudicators (including the Institution of Civil Engineers Register of Adjudicators, CIArb Presidential Panel and UK Adjudicators Panel) and has been appointed to adjudicate on a wide range of complex matters regarding, in particular, NEC3 and NEC4 contracts and payment disputes.

Debbie is also a highly experienced and accomplished Geotechnical Engineer with over 30 years of expertise in the field, including extensive work in geotechnical design, site investigation, and the management of complex engineering projects.

Over her career, Debbie has gained an extensive range of both engineering and contractual experience having worked for both a major engineering consultancy, as well as a small geotechnical consultancy providing sub-consultancy services to contractors and larger consultants.

Her expertise in the field has also seen her be appointed by the courts on a number of occasions to provide expert witness evidence in disputes relating to complex geotechnical matters.

BACKGROUND

After graduating in 1990, Debbie commenced a PhD in geotechnical engineering whilst also carrying out research into the stabilisation of coal tailings using both cement and polymers for British Coal. In April 1994, she joined Arup Geotechnics as a geotechnical engineer undertaking desk studies, site investigations and reporting, and during this time worked as part of the investigation team following the Heathrow Tunnel Collapse and supervised a number of large earthworks schemes in South Wales.

In 1998, Debbie transferred to the Arup Wrexham office to develop the Geotechnics group in both the North Wales area and the Isle of Man and subsequently became the Infrastructure Group Leader and Office Leader. Debbie was responsible for the financial management of the office, whilst continuing to maintain an active technical role on projects, especially pile and embedded retaining wall design, and landslip remediation schemes including soil nailing and rock anchoring.

In 2008, Debbie joined GroundSolve Ltd as a Director where she continued to undertake geotechnical design work. During this time, Debbie developed an interest in dispute resolution and completed an MSc at UCLan.

Since 2021, Debbie has been a Director of DisputeSolve Ltd acting as an adjudicator and an expert witness on geotechnical matters.

ADJUDICATION PANEL MEMBERSHIPS

- Institution of Civil Engineers Register of Adjudicators
- CIArb Presidential Panel
- UK Adjudicators Panel
- CIC Register of Adjudicators
- CIC Low Value Disputes Register of Adjudicators Panel
- CIArb Low Value Dispute Panel

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PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

- Member of the Adjudication Society
- Member of the Society of Construction Law
- RoGEP – Registered Ground Engineering Advisor
- Member of the British Geotechnical Association
- International Mediation Institute (IMI) Qualified Mediator
- Civil Mediation Council (CMC) – Associate Mediator

EXPERT WORK

Debbie has provided expert evidence to the courts for a number of disputes. These have concerned stability issues relating to a king post wall, the collapse of a 5m high retaining wall adjacent to the highway, and damage to a highway caused by a landslip due to excavation at the toe of a slope. She has provided independent expert technical advice to a Council concerning a planning application relating to a development at the top of a steep slope, which had a history of instability. She was asked to comment on the technical aspects of the submission made by the applicant. She also provided a technical opinion for an insurance company regarding a claim for structural damage to a property.

CONTRACT PREPARATION AND ADMINISTRATION

Debbie has experience preparing and administering a number of different forms of contract, including the NEC3 and NEC4, ICE 6th Ed, ICC Ground Investigation Version, NEC3 and NEC4 Short Contract, ICE Minor Works Contract, along with the ACE and NEC3 Professional Services Contracts.

ENGINEERING

During her career as a geotechnical engineer, Debbie has undertaken numerous desk studies and site investigations for a variety of schemes for housing, commercial developments, highway schemes, Network Rail projects and Local Government schemes. The Geotechnical Reports have been prepared in accordance with EuroCode 7 and CD622 (previously HD22). She has experience undertaking geotechnical design work, which generally includes slope stabilisation works, pile design, retaining wall design and permanent works design for basements. She also has extensive experience designing temporary works, especially for deep excavations and piling mats.

PUBLICATIONS

Debbie has written a variety of papers in the following publications by the National Museums & Galleries of Wales, in particular:

- Landslide and Landslide Management in North Wales, Geological Series No 22 Sept 2002
- Urban Geology in Wales, Geological Series No 23 September 2004
- Urban Geology in Wales: 2, Geological Series No 24 November 2005

AWARDS

- Winner of the OASYS Competition 2014 - Geotechnical Award Commercial Category – Design of Willow Spilling
- Winner of CIHT Transportation Geotechnics Award 2016 – A545 Gallows Point
- Geotechnical Award Winner Project Award 2017, ICE West Midlands Region, Jackfield Stabilisation
- Overall Winner Project Award 2017, ICE West Midlands Region, Jackfield Stabilisation