

Judge Patrick Mahoney

Advisory Board Member

Retired Principal Family Court Judge

Judge Mahoney was the Principal Family Court Judge from 1985 to 2004.

During his term of office he stressed the importance of good research as a basis for formulating family policy and developing family law and practice. Over recent years a great deal has been learnt about the dynamics of the divorce process and its impact on children and in particular how they are affected by ongoing high levels of conflict; research can point to positive steps which Courts and professionals can take to assist mothers and fathers to develop high quality parenting arrangements following separation. These are examples of the numerous issues over a wide variety of family situations where research can be of inestimable value.

Judge Mahoney has been a member of the Board of Directors of the Association of Family and Conciliation Courts, an American based organization, attending many of its conferences over the years. He has acted as a consultant to the Lord Chancellor in England on proposed divorce law changes there and he has developed close associations with Family Courts and their personnel in a number of other countries.

He has an ongoing interest in seeing that the needs of families, including their children, within our own national environment are properly recognized and serviced.