

Importantly, the role of the expert witness is now not solely about the production of a report or the provision of an opinion in relation to matters of science, or even the giving of oral evidence before a tribunal.

The role of the expert now reaches back into projects still being constructed and forward into the operational phase of an asset and interpretation of the decision or judgment in any dispute. This is particularly true of private finance initiatives and other long-term or complex project models.

The role of the expert as advisor to a party in pre-proceeding stages and as part of a team during any form of dispute resolution is equally important to understand and appreciate.

What makes a good expert witness?

A good expert will have a range of skills and knowledge suited to the needs of the particular issues upon which his expert evidence is needed.

As much as it's about knowing what to say, it's also about saying it the right way.