

From mountain to sea

Empty Homes/ Service and Merchant's discounts



Scheme Overview

Empty Homes practitioners have secured services and discounts from a number of national Builder's and other Merchants on a range of products and services that can help owners of empty homes return them to use. Where empty homes discounts apply, these are standardised, so no matter which branch the owner shops at, the discount will be the same.

It should be noted that providing this information about discounts does not constitute an endorsement from Aberdeenshire Council for the companies offering the discounts.

Products

The companies offering services and discounts can supply a wide range of products that should enable owners address most repairing and improvement projects, for example:

- **Building materials: bricks, cement etc.**
- **Painting & decorating**
- **Kitchens and bathrooms**
- **Surveys and Schedule of Works**
- **Home Reports**
- **Auction and pre purchase renovation**
- **Flooring and tiles**
- **Doors, windows, ironmongery**
- **Timber & sheet materials**
- **Insulation**
- **Damp proof courses**
- **Deep cleaning**

Participating Builders Merchants

The following builder's merchants are offering discounts:.

- **Howdens Joinery**
glenrothes@howdens.com

- **Jewson Builder's Merchant**
www.jewson.co.uk
- **Travis Perkins**
www.travisperkins.co.uk
- **Keyline Builders Merchants**
www.keyline.co.uk
- **Beatsons Builders Merchants**
<http://www.beatsons.co.uk>

Other companies offering services to Empty Home owners, including discounts

Hypostyle Architects - Empty Homes Survey/Schedule of Works needed
www.hypostyle.co.uk

Auction House Scotland - Free entry to auction and initial cost of home report.
<http://www.auctionhouse.co.uk/scotland>

Homesmatch - Pre purchase renovation and buyer matching service
<http://www.homesmatch.co.uk/>

Finewoods *- Scotland's largest door importer & supplier
www.fine-wood.co.uk

DM Design –Kitchens, bathrooms & bedrooms
www.dmdesignuk.com/

Wholesale Domestic – Bathroom superstore
www.wholesaledomestic.com/

Dulux Decorator Centres - Paint, woodcare, wallpaper
www.duluxdecoratorcentre.co.uk/

J and E Shepherd -Deferred cost of Home Reports
www.shepherd.co.uk/

McComish Group (in partnership with Veranet) - Deep cleaning/securing properties/repairs/renovations/energy advice
www.mccomishproperty.co.uk/

Details of branch locations and product types are available online. We always recommend that owners obtain a number of estimates for products from a range of suppliers, in order to access the best prices.

How do owners access the discounts?

If you are an empty home owner who would like to explore the benefit of purchasing goods from these companies, you should contact your local Empty Homes Officer to discuss your plan for bringing the empty property back into use. The officer will then contact the

Merchant giving the owners' details, and either issue a letter for the owner to take to the Merchant or arrange to have a Trade Discount card if this option is available.

Considerations for owners

Advice on organising and carrying out repairs is available in your local council's Scheme of Assistance leaflets. Help is also available from Housing, Building Standard and Planning officers at your local council. Owners should always check to see if any permissions are required from the council before carrying out alternations or extensions to property.

For an initial chat about your plans and help finding further advice and support, contact the Scottish Empty Homes Partnership.

Has your property been empty for longer than 2 years?

If your property has been empty for over two years and you are having the works carried out by a VAT-approved contractor, you may qualify for a discounted rate of 5% VAT on building supplies.

If your property has been empty for more than 10 years, you are eligible to pay 0% VAT on building supplies.

To access these discounts you need a letter from your Empty Homes Officer verifying how long your property has been empty. Get in touch via the email address below to ask for your letter.

✉ **Contact Aberdeenshire Council if you have an empty home and would like further advice:** emptyhomes@aberdeenshire.gov.uk

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