

# Homes Again West-Dunbartonshire & Renfrewshire



## Landlords Forum Update 2016

	Renfrewshire Council	West Dunbartonshire Council
Properties brought back into use through direct engagement	Year 1 -8 Year 2 -17 Year 3 - 28	Year 1 -2 Year 2 – 6 Year 3 - 20
Work in progress to bring properties back into use	33	15
Work in progress longer term	7	7

- Money saving incentives have been arranged with a number of builders merchants for empty homes owners. The list of participating merchants includes Jewsons, Travis Perkins, Keyline Builders, Beatsons, Howdens, Wholesale Domestic, DM design and Dulux decorator centres also participate.
- Deals have also been made with companies that offer deferred costs of home reports, companies offering schedule of works and deep cleaning services.
- As landlords you may not have any empty properties but I wanted to raise awareness in case you were wishing to purchase an empty property with a view to renting it out.
- Empty properties that have been empty for over a year are subject to 200% Council Tax. However if you are working towards getting these properties back into use discretionary exemptions for this can be applied while works are ongoing.
- Along with the builders merchants discounts the Empty Homes Loan Fund is also still available. Up to £15,000 can be offered to help owners of properties empty over 6 moths get them back into use for either renting or selling.
- Should you wish to sell an empty property you can make use of the property matchmaker scheme and also if you are looking to purchase a property chain free you can register as a buyer.
- You can also advertise your property to rent free on the councils new Homefinder webpage.
- All empty homes information is available on the councils website should you wish to read up on anything further or you can contact the Empty Homes Officer via email – [Kathryn.kelly@west-dunbarton.gov.uk](mailto:Kathryn.kelly@west-dunbarton.gov.uk).

