

Renovating your empty home: Builders' merchants discounts

Scheme Overview

South Ayrshire Council has secured discounts from a number of national Builder's Merchants on a range of products that can help owners of empty homes return them to use. The discounts are standardised, so no matter which branch the owner shops at, the discount will be the same.

Products

The companies offering 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**
- **Flooring and tiles**
- **Doors, windows, ironmongery**
- **Timber & sheet materials**
- **Landscaping**
- **Insulation**
- **Renewable energy solutions**

Discounts details

The following builder's merchants and joiners are offering discounts:

Jewson Builder's Merchant

www.jewson.co.uk

Keyline Builders Merchants

www.keyline.co.uk

Howdens Joinery

www.howdens.com

Details of branch locations and product types are available online. South Ayrshire Council always recommends 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?

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

The incentives have been negotiated as part of the Empty Homes Scheme. 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 officers will then contact the Builders 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 issued.

Considerations for owners

Advice on organising and carrying out repairs is available in your local council's Scheme of Assistance leaflets. Owners should always check to see if any permission is 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 your local Empty Homes Officer:

For further information please contact your Empty Homes Officer:

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www.south-ayrshire.gov.uk/Empty-Homes

Has your property been empty for longer than 2 years?

If your property has been empty for over two years you may qualify for a discounted rate of VAT on building supplies of 5%. If your property has been empty for more than 10 years you may be eligible to pay 0% VAT on these materials (dependent on end use). To access these discounts you need a letter from your Empty Homes Officer verifying how long your property has been empty. Get in touch on the numbers above to ask for your letter.