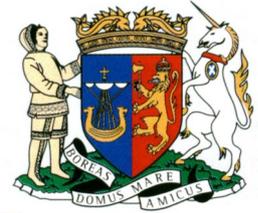


# Empty Homes Matchmaker

Advice for people looking to sell their Empty Homes and thinking about registering with the Empty Homes Matchmaker Scheme



**ORKNEY**  
ISLANDS COUNCIL

## What is the Property Matchmaker Scheme?

Often described as 'blind dating' for Empty Homes, the Empty Homes Matchmaker Scheme aims to match people who want to buy empty homes with owners that wish to sell.

Matchmaker Schemes are now running in councils across Scotland, helping local people and reducing the number of empty properties.

## Selling an Empty Home

Many people wish to sell their empty home's and often have very varied reasons for doing so. Whether your property is in 'move in' condition or needs renovation and repair, you can join the Matchmaker Scheme to increase the advertising potential for your property. All you have to do is fill out the application form with details of your property and these will then be stored on file and matched with registered potential buyers. The benefit of the scheme is that the details of your property will be sent directly to people interested in buying properties in your area which meet their criteria. Some of those registered may not regularly check estate agents listings etc. this is a great opportunity for them to be exposed to your property. Your property does not have to be listed with any other agency however this Scheme does not act as an estate agent, please see 'Disclaimers'.

## Buying an Empty Home

If you're looking to buy a currently empty property/ properties then the Matchmaker Scheme can help you to find the right one for you. We ask for you to fill out an application form detailing what you're looking for in a property. We then keep your criteria for potential houses on record. When a new property for sale is added to the Scheme it's specifications will be checked against what you were looking for in a property. If

these match, the details of the property for sale will be sent to the registered 'buyer' along with contact details for either the owner or their estate agent etc. Every empty home is different so there is the opportunity to buy both traditional and modern properties in 'move-in' condition, as doer-uppers or as big projects both on Mainland and the Outer Isles. Again it is a FREE service!

## How to Join

Contact the Empty Homes Development Officer at [rachael.bowes@orkney.gov.uk](mailto:rachael.bowes@orkney.gov.uk) to request an owner or buyer registration form. Alternatively call: 01856 873535 ex.2193 to have a form posted to you.

## Disclaimers

Information distributed through the Property Matchmaker service is intended for registered buyers only. Please be aware that if this information is not to be shared with external parties or third parties.

The Property Matchmaker is for matching buyers and owners registered under this scheme who are considering selling their empty property. **It does not constitute professional advice** and is not a substitute for any legal processes associated with selling and buying property. The Council is not acting as your commercial agent in operation of this scheme and all negotiations and sales processes take place between the seller and buyer. It is strongly recommended that all potential buyers carry out their own checks and inspections and independent legal advice is obtained before entering into any contract.

Please note that under the Housing Act 2006 it is a legal requirement in Scotland for any property which is "on the market" to have a Home Report. Owners who are considering selling but have not yet taken the step of getting a Home Report may register with the scheme, however should not enter into any negotiations with potential purchasers until a Home Report has been acquired.