Cheshire West & Chester Council

Empty Property
Matchmaker Service

What is the Empty Homes Matchmaker Service?

The Matchmaker Service "matches" and brings together those empty homeowners who wish to sell their empty home with an accredited private landlord, registered letting agent, registered provider or property developer who wishes to purchase an empty home and bring it back into use.

How does the Matchmaker Service work?

A member of our staff will help introduce an accredited private landlord, letting agent, registered provider or property developer to an empty homeowner so that the empty home is brought back into use and provides much needed affordable accommodation for our residents.

What are the benefits to empty homeowners?

There a number of benefits as follows:

- The Matchmaker Service is completely free of charge

- Helps take the hassle out of selling a home

- Provides an option for properties that require extensive renovation that cannot secure a mortgage or estate agents do not wish to market.

- Can help to save on estate agent fees as there is often no need to advertise the home on the open market

- Reduces the likelihood of having to pay the Empty Home Premium Charge (where Council Tax can be charged at 200% if home has been empty for 2 years or more) providing the home is sold within two years of becoming empty.

What are the benefits to a landlord, letting agent, registered provider or property developer?

There are a number of benefits as follows:

- The Matchmaker Service is completely free of charge

- Landlord, letting agent, registered provider or property developer have access to homes that are often not on the open market

- Access to grants/loans in relation to carrying out refurbishments and repairs

- Help to find a tenant and access to ongoing tenancy support for new tenant

- Access to our Enhanced Bond Guarantee Scheme which provides cover for up to two months' rent

How do I become part of the Matchmaker Service?

Being part of the Empty Homes Matchmaker Service is simple:

If you are an Empty homeowner

You will need to complete an **Empty Homeowner Application Form** by contacting the Empty Homes Team via: **emptyhomes@cheshirewestand chester.gov.uk** or by calling **0300 123 7038**, if you don't have email access.

If you are a landlord/letting agent, registered provider, or property developer

You will need to complete a **Matchmaker Service Landlord/Letting Agent, Registered Provider, Property Developer Information Form** by contacting the Empty Homes Team via: **emptyhomes@ cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk** or by calling: **0300 123 7038**, if you don't have email access.

Please note that private landlords and letting agents wishing to access the Matchmaker Service must be accredited with the Cheshire Landlord Accreditation Scheme or be a member of Association of Residential Letting s Agents (ARLA) or National Approved Letting Scheme (NALS) respectively.

Accessing Cheshire West and Chester Council information and services

Council information is also available in audio, Braille, large print or other formats. If you would like information in another format or language, including British Sign Language, please email us at:

equalities@cheshirewestandchester.gov.uk

إذا أردت المعلومات بلغة أخرى أو بطريقة أخرى، نرجو أن تطلب ذلك منا.

যদি আপনি এই ডকুমেন্ট অন্য ভাষায় বা ফরমেটে চান, তাহলে দয়া করে আমাদেরকে বলুন।

Pokud byste požadovali informace v jiném jazyce nebo formátu, kontaktujte nás

Jeżeli chcieliby Państwo uzyskać informacje w innym języku lub w innym formacie, prosimy dać nam znać.

ਜੇ ਇਹ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ ਤੁਹਾਨੂੰ ਕਿਸੇ ਹੋਰ ਭਾਸ਼ਾ ਵਿਚ ਜਾਂ ਕਿਸੇ ਹੋਰ ਰੂਪ ਵਿਚ ਚਾਹੀਦੀ, ਤਾਂ ਇਹ ਸਾਥੋਂ ਮੰਗ ਲਓ।

如欲索取以另一語文印製或另一格式製作的資料，請與我們聯絡。

Türkçe bilgi almak istiyorsanız, bize başvurabilirsiniz.

اگر آپ کو معلومات کسی دیگر زبان یا دیگر شکل میں درکار ہوں تو برائے مہربانی ہم سے پوچھئے۔

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