

# Empty home brought back into use from...Ayr

**Address: Davidson Place, Ayr**

**Total length of time empty: 1 year 11 months**

The Empty Homes Officer (EHO) first got in touch in August 2014 after the property was highlighted to the EHO through Council Tax records.

The main reason the property was empty was because the previous tenant had caused damage, and the owner was very reluctant to rent the property out again. In addition, the condition of the common area and neighbourhood reputation had made it very difficult to let in the past.

The owner had substantial debt on the property, and was living elsewhere with a partner. Options were discussed with the owner, but she was keen to particularly explore the option of South Ayrshire Council's purchase of the property.

As the authority owned all other properties in this and the adjacent block, it was agreed that it would be a suitable property for buyback. This process began in October 2014 and finally settled in February 2015.

**Outcome:** As a result, the property was purchased by the council through its buyback scheme in February 2015.

Case study details supplied by Ross Morris, Empty Homes Officer, South Ayrshire Council.