

Title of Report:	Property Contracts and Contractors in Schools
Report to be considered by:	Resource Management Select Committee
Date of Meeting:	18 May 2010

Purpose of Report: To review the efficiency and effectiveness of Property Services in relation to contracts and the use of contractors in schools.

Recommended Action: To note the information provided and consider areas for improvement, where appropriate.

Key background documentation: Paperwork provided for Resource Management Select Committee – 30 June 2009 and 19 October 2009
Minutes of Resource Management Select Committee – 30 June 2009 and 19 October 2009

Resource Management Select Committee Chairman	
Name & Telephone No.:	Councillor Jeff Brooks – Tel (01635) 47391
E-mail Address:	jeff.brooks@westberkslibdems.org.uk

Contact Officer Details	
Name:	Stephen Chard
Job Title:	Policy Officer (Scrutiny Support)
Tel. No.:	01635 519462
E-mail Address:	schard@westberks.gov.uk

Executive Report

1. Introduction

- 1.1 At the Resource Management Select Committee meeting held on 30 June 2009 Steve Broughton, the Head of Property and Public Protection, attended and provided a report on the work of Property Services and the Council's main contractor, Kier Facilities Services Ltd, within schools.
- 1.2 This was continued at the Resource Management Select Committee held on 19 October 2009 when cost analysis information on the delivery of services was provided as well as the results of a satisfaction survey undertaken with schools. This meeting was also attended by Mark Lewis (Education Assets Manager) and representatives from Theale Green Community School and Kintbury St Mary's Primary School.
- 1.3 It was resolved at the meeting on 19 October 2009 that:
 - (1) The topic would return to a future agenda, prior to the renegotiation of the schools buy back contract, to see what work was proposed to encourage more schools to buy back services. A report covering this aspect is provided at Appendix A.
 - (2) The survey would be recirculated, prior to the renegotiation of the buy back contract, when a larger response rate would hopefully be achieved to help form a greater understanding of issues. The survey results are detailed at Appendix B.

2. Recommendation

- 2.1 The Select Committee is asked to note the information provided and consider areas for improvement, where appropriate.

Appendices

Appendix A – Increasing buy in of the Property Service by schools

Appendix B – Survey response