

To consider the following motion moved by Councillor Mrs. Lewin-Harris seconded by Councillor Mrs. Bradley;-

"This Council regrets the disaster of Wellsprings.

While "there is no evidence that the Council have acted imprudently or improperly in this matter" according to the District Auditor, his Report however, highlights the failure of the Liberal Democrat/Labour administration.

"The contractor's financial reference was marginal" yet the Liberal Democrats and the Labour failed to see or respond to signs that the contract might not be delivered to agreed timescales and budget. In the District Auditor's view the Council should have responded more actively and increased their input and resources in the project management and supervision. There should have been an increase in the level of supervision and project monitoring and management including risk analysis.

This is a clear indictment of the ruling group and the Conservatives reaffirm their assertion that the Liberal Democrat and Labour administration have been inept and incompetent and seek assurance that the business plan be updated to ensure that Wellsprings delivers what the customers want. This is of particular importance since there appears never to have been a clear decision at the outset as to whether The Council was pursuing a sports hall or a sports centre.

The Council regret the huge cost, in excess of £1.5 million now falling upon the council tax payers of Taunton Deane."

