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Leading learning and skills

1/ Attempting to open LISdata2000.mdb results in the error message "This database is in an unexpected state; Microsoft Access can't open it."

The LIS database has been changed to Microsoft Access 2000 from Microsoft Access 97. As a result of this change, the error message given when a user attempts to open LISdata.mdb is as above, instead of the "You do not have the necessary permissions. . ." error that displayed in previous LIS versions.

Suggested Action: Open the LISData2000.mdb from the shortcut in the folder C:\LIS\Release15.

2/ The Options-Maintenance-Compact Database function does not work once the FE funding viewer has been used.

Suggested action: Close and restart the LIS, then use the compact database function before using the FE funding viewer.

3/ When exporting a report from batch import, the filename of the export cannot be changed.

When setting up an export of a report from batch import the browser seemingly allows a new filename to be created for the export, however, when the report is exported the default filename is used. This can sometimes result in a previous export being unexpectedly overwritten.

Suggested action: None. Users should be aware that these reports always use their default filenames.

4/ Opening the Provider Data Update file from outside LIS produces the message "This database is in an unexpected state; Microsoft Access can't open it."

The Provider Data Updates are not intended to be opened outside the LIS – this can be the result. The Provider Data Update file is intended to be opened from within the LIS application: Within the LIS, select 'Options' then on the 'Maintenance' tab select 'Update Data' and specify the location of the unzipped update file.

Suggested action: None.

5/ A11a_3 and A11b_3

Validation rules A11a_3 and A11b_3 are not listed in the validation rules specifications spreadsheet version 4, yet appear in the LIS and online systems. This is due to the way that the A11a_1 and A11b_1 rules have been implemented, which splits the ACL validation into separate rules A11a_3 and A11b_3. The next version of the validation rules specification spreadsheet will reflect this.

Suggested action: None.

6/ A10_AD04_1 does not trigger for some Train to Gain (TtG) learners that are less than 19 years old at the start of their aim

A10_AD04_1 should ensure that TtG learners are 19 years old or above at the start of their aim. However, the AD04 derived variable used by this validation rule only checks for the year and month when validating the learner's date of birth against the learning aim start date. This means that a learner is considered to have reached their 19th birthday if it falls at any point during the month of the start date. For example, if a learning aim start date was the first day of a month but the learner was not 19 until later that month then this rule does not trigger.

This issue only affects the LIS implementation of AD04 and the A10_AD04_1 rules. It is implemented correctly in the online systems.

Suggested action: Be aware of this issue if A10_AD04_1 errors are reported from online systems.

7/ Section III of the Learner Numbers with Funding report shows the wrong year in the description

This section header incorrectly states academic year 0607 instead of 0708, this does not affect the report's functionality. The figures show the number of learners with no FE funding in 2007/08.

Suggested action: Users should be aware of this issue when using the LNwF report in LIS 15.01.

8/ Section VI of the Learner Numbers with Funding (LNwF) report shows the wrong funding value against Full Level 3 learners

The funding values shown against the Full Level 3 learners do not include funding from A Level or AS/A2 aims. The Full Level 3 funding figures incorrectly includes Level_3_Cat_Codes of 1 only; it should include Level_3_Cat_Codes of 1, 2 and 3.

The Full Level 3 learner counts are correct and include A Level and AS/A2 aims. The Full Level 3 learner counts correctly include Level_3_Cat_Codes of 1,2 and 3.

This issue affects the Learner Number with Funding report in LIS series 15 (2007/08), LIS series 14 (2006/07) and LIS series 13 (2005/06).

Suggested action: Be aware of this issue when using the LNwF report, particularly when using the LNwF Full Level 3 funding figures to report against other systems, such as the PaM system.

9/ The LIS produces an “Error inserting into DeriveAimResults table”.

When calculating Derived Variables (DVs) the LIS can fail with the error “Error inserting into the DeriveAimResults table. (The field 'DeriveAimResults.A_L3WID' cannot contain a Null value because the Required property for this field is set to True. Enter a value in this field.)”

This occurs when a LAD aim has a full level 2 or 3 category which is 1, 2, 3 or 4, but does not have a Level 2 percentage or Level 3 percentage field populated, which is used by the DV calculation to see if the learner is a Full Level 2 or Full Level 3.

LAD downloads from 12 September 2007 through to 18 October 2007 are known to have 18 GCE A2 aims that may cause this issue to be seen – aim codes 00285506 to 00285523 inclusive.

Suggested action: If you encounter this error download, unzip, and link to the latest LAD from <http://providers.lsc.gov.uk/lad/> .

10/ Derived Variable A15_2 is not shown in the DerivedFrameworkResults table

The DerivedFrameworkResults table does not include the A15_2 derived variable.

Suggested action: None. This issue may be fixed in a future LIS release.

11/ The TtG Occupancy Export Report includes funding from 2006/07.

The TtG Occupancy Export Report is incorrectly including 2006/07 funding for learners that started in 2006/07 and are still in the 2007/08 ILR file.

The report should show all learners who are in-learning in 2007/08 – including any that started in 2006/07 – but the funding shown on the report should only show funding generated in 2007/08.

For instance, for a learner starting in August 2006 and achieving in September 2007, the report currently shows the 2006/07 start funding in column ‘p1start’ and the 2007/08 achievement funding in column ‘p1ach’. In this case it should only show the achievement funding from 2007/08 in the ‘p1ach’ column, and nothing in the ‘p1start’ column.

This issue only affects the TtG occupancy export report. The TtG funding calculations are correct; The TtG Funding Summary report is correct; The funding figures used in AMPS are correct.

Suggested action: You should be aware of this issue when using the TtG Occupancy Export Report. This issue may be fixed in a future LIS release.

12/ The grade DS* (Distinction *) in the learning outcome grade field, field A36, produces a validation error.

A validation data update for LIS 15.10 was made available on 29 October 2007, to allow a grade of DS* (Distinction *) to be used in the learning outcome grade field. If you have not applied this data update to your LIS 15.01, then using a grade of DS* in field A36 will produce a validation error A36_1 – “The learning outcome grade must be a valid lookup if entered.”

The ILR specification was updated on 19 October 2007 to include DS* (Distinction *) as a valid grade for use in the learning outcome grade field, field A36. This was announced by data news item [07/082](#). The specification document will be updated in due course.

The On-line Data Collection systems were updated to accept this grade during their upgrade that completed on 25 October 2007.

Suggested action: Update LIS 15.01 with the validation data update file published on 29 October 2007 on the [LIS 15.01](#) page of the LSC website:

(www.lsc.gov.uk/providers/Data/Software/LIS/LIS15-01)

Instructions for applying the update are shown on the page, or within the User Guide.

13/ Unique Learner Numbers (ULNs) may not be imported correctly, which then corrupts ILR file exports.

In some circumstances, Unique Learner Numbers (ILR fields L45, A55, E24 and H37) are not imported correctly by the LIS.

The incorrect imports occur where an ILR file has a mixture of learners with and without ULNs, and learners without ULNs occupy the first records in the file.

In the data viewer, you may notice blank entries against fields L45, A55, E24 and H37 for learners that should have ULNs.

However, this issue then causes ILR files exported using the Batch Import screen's ILR Export Option or the Export ILR File screen to be corrupted. If an exported file is then transmitted to the LSC's online data collections system, or loaded back into the LIS, it will produce import validation errors (validation rule I01) against fields L46, A56, E25 and H38, for all learners which should have ULNs.

Suggested action: If you are affected by the issue, do not use the LIS file export functionality. This issue will be fixed in a future LIS release.

14/ The PCDL section of the Funding Claim Report can report the wrong number of learners receiving PCDL funding.

The number of learners receiving PCDL funding should be a count of learner records where ILR fields A46a or A46b are 61 and where derived variable L_LIS_FG = 1, meaning that the learner is funded in the current academic year. Currently the Funding Claim Report includes any learners who are not funded in the current academic year, and can report too many learners. The funding total is reporting correctly.

An additional issue is that the label underneath the PCDL "Funding Value (£)" row incorrectly reads "(NOT included above)". The correct text should read "(not including ALS)".

The PCDL funding figure is correct.

The PCDL funding value is included in the 16-18 and 19+ figures.

The PCDL funding value does not include ALS.

Suggested action: You should be aware of these issues when using the FE Funding Claim Report.