

LIS 16.03

Known Issues

Issues resolved on 31 March 2009

Please note that issues 21, 24, 25 and 26 have been resolved in an update to LIS version 16.03, available for download from 31 March 2009. See the Resolved Known Issues section below for more information.

Active Known Issues

11/ The ER Detailed Learner and Aim Funding report sometimes does not run.

On some occasions, the LIS fails to produce the Detailed Learner and Aim Funding Report. The report appears to be generating but the following message appears:

“An error occurred during local report processing. An unexpected error occurred in Report Processing. Exception of type ‘System.OutOfMemoryException’ was thrown.”

This is currently being investigated and is expected to be fixed in a future release.

Suggested action: If this occurs then users should filter the report by the learner reference field or by ILR field L42.

17/ Funding Claim report prints in Landscape format in certain circumstances.

If the Funding Claim report is included as a report to be printed in a Batch Import process, it prints as Portrait rather than Landscape. If the report is exported to PDF format, or printed from Report Manager, it appears correctly.

Suggested action: Users to be aware of this issue. This issue is being reviewed for inclusion in a future release for 2009/10.

18/ Validation rule A09_A10_A15_A26_A27_LAD_1 is not being triggered for common component aims.

Validation Rule A09_A10_A15_A26_A27_LAD_1 is not being triggered for some learning aims within apprenticeship frameworks. This validation rule is not using ILR field A26 when validating whether an aim shown as a Common Component (Key Skills or Functional Skill) within the LAD is correct within a particular framework. This means that some incorrect learning aims are not being detected.

Suggested action: Users to be aware of this issue. This issue is being reviewed for inclusion in a future release or patch.

19/ The version of Postcode Data can be incorrect after uninstalling and reinstalling LIS.

In some circumstances, the LIS can hold and report incorrect version dates for the postcode tables which include area cost factors and disadvantage factors. This can happen after installing and uninstalling different LIS versions in some particular sequences.

This is because of the way LIS holds and updates the version dates, and because the LIS uninstallation routine does not remove the postcode database.

Normally, when users update the Postcode Factors in the LIS using the Update Data function, the database table LookupDetails is updated with the date stamps from the imported tables. These date stamps appears on report footers and in the Version Information window in the Options tab. This functionality works as expected.

However, if the LIS is uninstalled the PostcodeFactors database is not removed by uninstallation, and remains in place.

When a different version of the LIS is then installed, the installation includes the version dates of the postcode data that was relevant at the time that LIS was produced, rather than the actual version that is present on that PC, unless the user imports another postcode factors database file.

Suggested action: Users to be aware of this issue. If the LIS is uninstalled to be replaced by an earlier version, users are advised to delete the PostcodeFactors.mdb from the Data folder in the LIS 16 folders. When installing a new version of LIS, users are advised to download and import the latest Postcode Update mdb to ensure that the version dates are correct.

22/ Incorrect text within Warning message for Employer Responsive Summary Statement of Activity (ER SSoA) report.

An Error message appears in the header of every page saying: "Warning: Derived variable calculation and/or learner responsive funding calculation have not yet been run. Report values are likely to be incorrect".

Should read "Warning: Derived variable calculation and/or **employer** responsive funding calculation have not yet been run. Report values are likely to be incorrect".

Suggested action: Users to be aware of this issue. This issue is being reviewed for inclusion in a future release or patch.

23/ Funding Claim report cannot be exported to MS Excel.

The Funding Claim report cannot be exported to MS Excel. This problem occurs after selecting the Excel export option from the SSRS report window and also when running the report from during a Batch Import process with the file format set to Excel.

Suggested action: Users to be aware of this issue. This issue is being reviewed for inclusion in a future release or patch.

Resolved Known Issues

4/ The LIS Funding Calculation for Employer Responsive (Train to Gain) learners do not assign the final on-programme payment for learners who continue from 2007/08 and achieve in August 2008 - Resolved in LIS 16.02.

There was a known problem with the funding calculation in LIS version 16.01 for learners who continue onto a Train to Gain programme from 2007/08 and achieve in August 2008, before 31 August.

The final achievement payment was calculated correctly but, even if the learner was still on-programme in August, the final on-programme payment was not calculated.

For a learner who was on a Train to Gain programme in 2007/08, the result was that 25% of the total funding was calculated for August, when the correct answer would be 50%.

Learners formerly on NVQs within the Further Education (FE) funding stream in 2007/08 were also affected, but the value of the error would vary depending on the individual learner's characteristics.

This issue was not believed to affect learners on Apprenticeships or learners who achieve in September 2008 or any subsequent periods.

Update: This issue does affect a wider group of learners than originally believed – learners who achieved in September 2008 and subsequent periods could also be affected, depending on the combinations of dates for that particular learners. However it did not affect Apprenticeships or learners who start in 2008/09.

Suggested action: This is resolved in version 16.02 of the LIS.

5/ Validation Rule R33 is rejecting learners which should be valid - Resolved in LIS 16.02.

In LIS version 16.01, there is an error in the implementation of validation rule R33 (which is concerned with E2E learners). The validation rule is checking for the presence of a learning aim with ILR field A09, learning aim reference, and set to XE2E0001.

The rule incorrectly returns an error in some cases, even if the learning aim reference XE2E0001 is present in the data.

Suggested action: This is resolved in version 16.02 of the LIS.

6/ Validation Rule R32 is rejecting learners which should be valid - Resolved in LIS 16.02.

In LIS version 16.01, there is an error in the implementation of validation rule R32. This rule was incorrectly rejecting learners who had completed one framework and went on to do a different framework of the same type.

The rule was only looking at ILR field A15, programme type, when it should have taken into account ILR field A26, framework code, as well.

Suggested action: This is resolved in version 16.02 of the LIS.

7/ E2E Calculation of qualification bonuses - Resolved in LIS 16.03.

The Learner Responsive funding calculation for Entry to Employment (E2E) may generate incorrect calculation of qualification bonuses in some unusual circumstances.

If two qualifications are achieved which respectively generate a basic bonus and an enhanced bonus (and are achieved in that order) then the calculation is correct. It generates the basic bonus for the first qualification and then a “top up” to the enhanced bonus for the second one.

If the same two qualifications are achieved the other way round (so that the enhanced level is achieved first), then subsequent achievement of a basic level qualification will reduce the enhanced original enhanced bonus to a “top up” and the basic bonus will be allocated to the second qualification. The correct total funding will still be generated, but the timing of the bonuses will be incorrect.

However this combination of events is unusual and unlikely to apply to many learners.

Suggested action: This is resolved in version 16.03 of the LIS.

8/ E2E Calculation for learners who extend past their planned end date - Resolved in LIS 16.03.

For E2E learners who continue past their planned end date, the funding calculation currently stops generating on-programme payments until the actual date is entered.

This issue is being investigated and will be addressed in a future version of the LIS.

Suggested action: This is resolved in version 16.03 of the LIS.

9/ Postcode file - Resolved in LIS 16.03.

Version 16.01 of the LIS contains the same postcode lookup data as version 16.02 of the LIS. This is the same set of data as shown in the version 1 data file on the LSC website here:

<http://www.lsc.gov.uk/providers/Data/Software/Disadvantageduplift>

This will be updated in a future version of the LIS. However users should note that the LIS is using the same version as the funding calculations in the online data collection system.

Suggested action: This issue is resolved in version 16.03 of the LIS. An updated Postcode data file is available for LIS 16.03 and can be downloaded from the following website:

<http://www.lsc.gov.uk/providers/Data/Software/LIS/LIS16-03.htm>

10/ Reports not included in this version - Resolved in LIS 16.02 Patch and LIS 16.03.

The LIS currently does not include some reports for Learner Responsive provision, including the following:

- Funding Claim Report

- Learner Numbers with Funding
- Funding included and excluded by ILR Export

These reports will be included or replaced in a future version of the LIS. The Learner Numbers with Funding report is likely to be replaced by a report relating more closely to the 2008/09 allocation system than the 2007/08 report.

Suggested action: This issue is now resolved. These reports are included in the Patch to version 16.02 of the LIS.

12/ The ILR Form Report will not run within the Batch Import process - Resolved in LIS 16.02 (functionality removed).

The Batch Import process gives users the option to run reports after importing an ILR file or independently of any other Batch Import process. One report option is the ILR form report. If this report is selected the message “A learner reference must be entered” appears and the process will be aborted.

Suggested action: This is resolved in the Patch to version 16.02 of the LIS.

13/ A calculation error is generated if a null value is entered in ILR field A20 for Learner Responsive calculations - Resolved in LIS 16.02.

If a null value is entered in ILR field A20 the validation rule A04_A20_1 will not prevent the data reaching the funding calculation as it is not a “Funding Rule”. In this case the LIS will report a Calculation Error.

Suggested action: This is resolved in the Patch to version 16.02 of the LIS.

14/ Specific Validation Rules are in error - Resolved in LIS 16.02.

There are errors with three validation rules, which mean they do not trigger for some aims which should be invalid. This applies to LIS version 16.01 and 16.02.010.

(a) Rules A04_A09_A10_A18_A32_LAD_1 and A04_A09_A10_A18_A32_LAD_2.

In the validation rule specification these rules are defined as: “Loadbanded learning aims are not eligible for {16-18 or adult} learner responsive funding if they are delivered in less than 9 guided learning hours unless the learning aim is awarded by Ufi or is approved under Section 96 or Section 97”.

(b) Rule A07_A09_LAD_1.

In the validation rule, specification this rules is defined as: “Must exist on All Annual Values table for year 2008/09 with valid status (1 or 2) for aims which are not learner responsive, employer responsive or ASL funded”.

Suggested action: This is resolved in the Patch to version 16.02 of the LIS.

15/ Indicative Occupancy List Export - Resolved in LIS 16.02 Patch.

There is an issue with the Indicative Occupancy List export in LIS 16.02.010.

This export is based on data for a particular period. In the version 16.02.010 of LIS, the user cannot select which period's data to use, because the filter field which enables users to select the period is not displayed in the report manager window. The LIS takes the period from the last report which was run where a period was selected.

Suggested action: This is resolved in the Patch to version 16.02 of the LIS.

16/ Validation Rule A04_A09_A10_A18_A32_LAD_1 is being triggered for all E2E learners. - Resolved in LIS 16.03.

Following the recent release of the 16.02 LIS patch, it has been discovered that a validation error is being triggered for E2E learning aims.

The validation rule concerned (A04_A09_A10_A18_A32_LAD_1) will be replaced in the next version of the validation rule specification, and this change included as part of the next scheduled release of OLDC and LIS, which will be available at the beginning of March.

However in the meantime, providers should be aware that although the LIS is rejecting these learning aim records, the E2E aims are still valid and can be submitted through the data collections portal. This issue will not prevent providers returning E2E data through OLDC for the F02 return in February. The issue does not affect the funding calculations in LIS, which still generates funding correctly for these learners, but providers with E2E provision are advised not to use the ILR Export functionality of LIS.

This error is also being triggered for some aims which are not E2E. These aims are still currently being accepted by the data collections portal, but are invalid and will be rejected after the next release of changes to the data collection portal.

Suggested action: This is resolved in LIS version 16.03 which includes a replacement validation rule.

20/ ULN field not rejecting invalid data - Resolved in LIS 16.03.

Decimal point entered within unique learner number (e.g. NNNNNNNN.), passes validation, but recorded in database as null, thus failing export.

The Validation rule specification states the ULN field must be in the format 1000000000 – 9999999999.

Suggested action: This is resolved in version 16.03 of the LIS.

21/ Employer Responsive ILR Actuals by SSoA Category (ER SSoA) report, displays incorrect SLN and funding figures for Apprenticeships. Resolved in revised version of LIS 16.03 from 31 March 2009

For Apprenticeship learners, the Learner, SLN and Funding figures are incorrect in the Employer Responsive LR Actuals by SSoA Category (ER SSoA) report. See also known issue number 25 below.

Suggested action: This is resolved in a revised version 16.03 of the LIS, available from 31 March 2009.

24/ Future Funding Factors report displays incorrect data in the "16-18 Learner Responsive Funding" row. Resolved in revised version of LIS 16.03 from 31 March 2009

In the Future Funding Factors report, the 16-18 Learner Responsive Funding row is incorrect, and only includes information for Entry to Employment (E2E) provision.

Suggested action: This is resolved in a revised version 16.03 of the LIS, available from 31 March 2009.

25/ Employer Responsive LR Actuals by SSoA Category (ER SSoA) Report displays incorrect learner numbers for Apprenticeships. Resolved in revised version of LIS 16.03 from 31 March 2009

For Apprenticeship learners, the Learner numbers figures are incorrect in the Employer Responsive LR Actuals by SSoA Category (ER SSoA) report.

These values are incorrect in cases when an apprenticeship programme is counted as funded (in variable P_to_Date_SLN_Payment) but individual aims are not funded (in variable A_to_Date_SLN_Payment).

Suggested action: This is resolved in a revised version 16.03 of the LIS, available from 31 March 2009.

26/ Installation problems with initial version of LIS 16.03

Several users reported a 'runtime' error when running the LIS Batch Import process after using the LIS 16.03.005 installation file which was released on Monday 2nd March 2009.

Suggested action: This was resolved in a revised version 16.03 of the LIS, available from 6 March 2009.

Standing Known Issues

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 was changed to Microsoft Access 2000 from Microsoft Access 97, in a previous year’s LIS. 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 early LIS versions.

Suggested Action: Open the LISData2000.mdb from the shortcut in the folder C:\LIS\Release16.

2/ 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.

3/ 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.