

09 July 2009

Dear Local Authority and LAA contacts,

RE: Further errors in NI 185/194 reporting spreadsheet

I am writing to you to explain how to respond to further errors that have been brought to our attention in the NI 185 spreadsheet, which is used for submitting data for both NI 185 (reducing emissions of carbon dioxide from local authorities operations) and NI 194 (reducing NOx and primary PM10 emissions through local authority's estate and operations). The errors appear in the transport section of the spreadsheet and are described in the annex below.

We are very sorry that the spreadsheet contains these errors, but are very grateful to those who have reported them to us. A great deal of time and effort has been invested in this exercise by local authorities and it is essential that it succeeds.

To avoid placing an additional burden on you as a result of these errors, **we ask local authorities not to attempt to correct these faults**. Please continue to enter data into the input cells in the spreadsheet (the blue cells) and ignore those output cells (the yellow cells) which display what appear to be incorrect returns. **We will correct the formula errors in the spreadsheets that are submitted by you and return these to you.**

For those of you who have attempted to correct spreadsheet errors, we will check these as part of our verification exercise. A corrected spreadsheet is attached for those local authorities who would find it useful.

We would have of course preferred for all the output cells to display correct data at the point that you submit the spreadsheet and expect that the vast majority of them will do so. But in view of the continuing occurrence of faults, we believe that it is only fair for us to perform the adjustments rather than you.

We would also be grateful to you if you could let us know if you suspect any additional errors and will investigate anything you report to us via the Government Office network.

We will let you know when to submit completed spreadsheets. You will not be expected to do so before 31 July.

For those local authorities which have committed to setting targets against NI 185 in their LAAs but have not yet done so before the 2008/09 baseline has been set, we advise that you wait until your NI 185 spreadsheet has been checked by us. Spreadsheets received from LAAs with NI 185 targets will be checked first to allow them to agree targets as soon as possible.

Yours faithfully,

James Gorie

Climate Change mitigation: local, regional and devolved government

Errors identified in the NI 185/194 reporting spreadsheet, since previous guidance by DECC was issued on 23 June 2009

The following errors occur in data output cells in the 'air quality component' table of the 'input 2 – transport' sheet:

1. The 'convert litres to km' cells (4th column from the right – cells S11:S24) have been displaying incorrect results due to an error in the formula.
2. The 'Euro standard' cells (4th column from the left – cells O11:O24) do not display a Euro standard for all dates of vehicle registration. Air Quality data also fails to be displayed when a Euro standard is not displayed.

The following error occurs in data output cells in the 'buildings and street-lighting - emissions' section of the 'output' sheet:

3. PM10 emissions (Kg) for business travel (cell Q41) displays NOx emissions instead of PM10 emissions.