Morning Comment

AIB Treasury Economic Research Unit



07:19 am

6-month delay to Brexit

Despite a busy macro calendar, currency markets retained a subdued tone vesterday. This continued overnight, with no notable reaction to the European Council's decision to offer the UK a further Article 50 extension until October 31st.

The EU's offer is lengthier than the extension that PM May had requested (until June 30th). However, under the terms of the extension, the UK can leave the EU before October, if the Withdrawal Agreement (WA) is ratified in Parliament. Although, the UK is now obliged to take part in the European Parliament elections, should the WA not be approved by MPs by May 22nd. If it does not hold the election, the UK will leave without a deal on June 1st.

Meanwhile, as expected, the ECB left rates unchanged at its April meeting. The ECB did not provide any new insight into a possible further pushing out of its forward guidance or the introduction of a multi-tier deposit facility. Currency-wise, the conclusion of the meeting had limited impact on the euro.

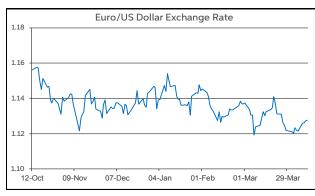
So, as action gets underway this morning, the main pairs are little changed from 24 hours previous. EUR/GBP remains just above the 86p level, while GBP/USD is changing hands in the upper half of the \$1.30-1.31 band. Elsewhere, EUR/USD is up near \$1.13.

Turning to the day ahead, there is a barren look to the global macro-data calendar. Therefore, both the euro and the dollar could struggle for direction today. In the UK, the focus will be on the political reaction to last night's developments. At the same time, markets will be eager for any insight into what the latest Article 50 negotiating period extension means for PM May's Brexit strategy. Overall, sterling could experience some volatility today.

Conor Beakey, Economist, AIB

Opening Interest Rates							
		Short Term			Long Term		
l	Base Rate	1-Mth	3-Mth	12-Mth	2-Yr	5-Yr	
USD	2.375	2.48	2.60	2.74	2.41	2.31	
EUR	0.00	-0.37	-0.31	-0.11	-0.20	0.01	
GBP	0.75	0.73	0.82	1.08	0.99	1.14	
Equity Indices							
	% C		hanges				
	Late	Latest Close		Day	End 201	8 to Date	
Dow Jones	26	26157.16		0.03	+1	2.13	
S&P 500	28	2888.21		0.35	+1	5.21	
FTSE 100	74	7421.91		-0.05		+10.31	
DJ Stoxx 50	34	3424.65		+0.22		+14.10	
ISEQ	62	6241.86		-0.10		+13.91	
Nikkei	21703.39		+(+0.07		+8.44	

Today's Opening Rates				
		% Change		
		Day *	End 2018	
EUR/USD	1.1279	0.17	-1.66	
EUR/GBP	0.8621	0.02	-4.04	
GBP/USD	1.3078	0.17	2.52	
GBP/EUR	1.159	-0.02	4.21	
USD/JPY	111.09	-0.02	1.40	
EUR/JPY	125.3	0.14	-0.33	
* v Previous Day's European Open				
See Next Page for More Rates				







All rates quoted are indicative market rates

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See Next Page For More Rates & Charts

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Opening Levels

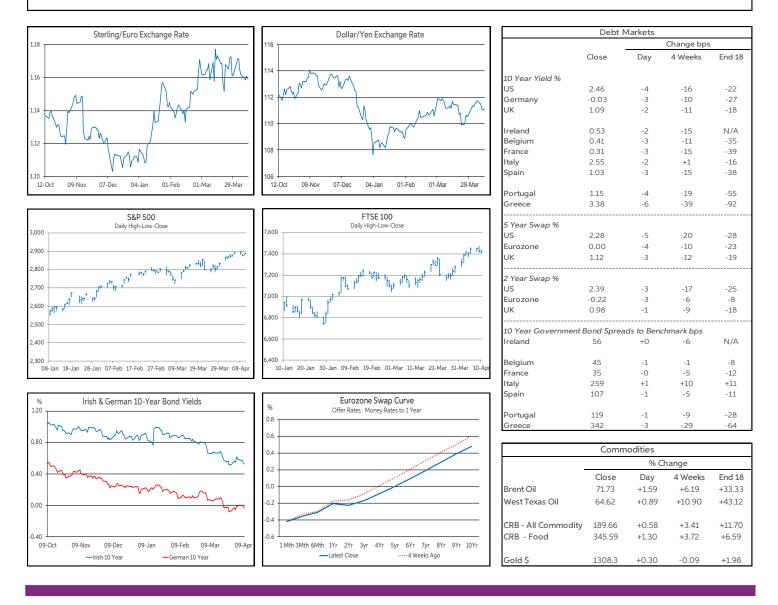
Thursday 11 April 2019 07:19 am



Eur	o
EUR/GBP	0.8622
EUR/USD	1.1279
EUR/JPY	125.31
EUR/SEK	10.4413
EUR/DKK	7.465
EUR/NOK	9.5786
EUR/CHF	1.1304
EUR/AUD	1.575
EUR/HKD	8.8439
EUR/CAD	1.5044

Sterling		
GBP/EUR	1.1596	
GBP/USD	1.308	
GBP/CAD	1.7447	
GBP/NZD	1.9335	
GBP/JPY	145.32	
GBP/SEK	12.1054	
GBP/DKK	8.6566	
GBP/NOK	11.1095	
GBP/CHF	1.3109	
GBP/AUD	1.826	

Dollar			
USD/JPY	111.1		
USD/CAD	1.3337		
USD/CHF	1.002		
USD/CNY	6.7144		
USD/BRL	3.8252		
USD/RUB	64.3064		
USD/INR	68.974		
AUD/USD	0.716		
NZD/USD	0.676		



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