Morning Comment

AIB Treasury Economic Research Unit



Friday 12 April 2019 07:18 am

Sterling modestly lower

The action on currency markets was again muted yesterday. Sterling opens slightly lower this morning, but there is no standout reason for this, given the guiet macro calendar.

Meanwhile, on the Brexit front, Prime Minister May addressed the House of Commons yesterday, following the previous night's EU Summit (6 month delay to Brexit granted). Although, she revealed no new information. Parliament has now commenced its Easter recess and will not reconvene until April 23rd. Therefore, Brexit newsflow may quieten down somewhat over the next 2 weeks.

Elsewhere, US weekly jobless numbers again beat expectations. Claims fell to a multi-decade low of 196k (f'cast 211k), providing further evidence of the strong US labour market. However, there was no notable dollar impact.

In level terms, the marginally softer sterling tone sees EUR/GBP open this morning close to the 86.5p mark, while GBP/USD is trading near to the midpoint of the \$1.30-1.31 band. Elsewhere, EUR/USD continues to change hands below the \$1.13 level.

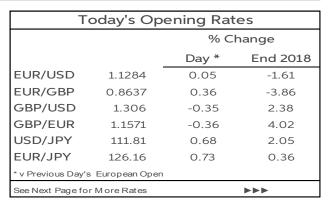
Turning to the day ahead, there is a barren look to the UK data schedule, meaning sterling could struggle for direction today. In the Eurozone, industrial production figures for February are due. Output is forecast to have declined by 0.6%, although there is the potential for an upside surprise, given strong national figures released earlier. However, euro impact should be minimal.

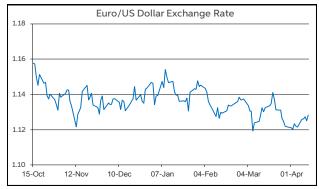
Across the Atlantic, the flash reading of the University of Michigan measure of consumer sentiment is expected to show that confidence is broadly stable in April, remaining at a high level. Dollar reaction, though, will likely be limited.

Conor Beakey, Economist, AIB

Opening Interest Rates						
		Short Term			Long Term	
	Base Rate	1-Mth	3-Mth	12-Mth	2-Yr	5-Yr
USD	2.375	2.47	2.60	2.73	2.42	2.32
EUR	0.00	-0.37	-0.31	-0.11	-0.20	0.03
GBP	0.75	0.73	0.83	1.08	1.02	1.18

Equity Indices				
		% Changes		
	Latest Close	on Day	End 2018 to Date	
Dow Jones	26143.05	-0.05	+12.07	
S&P 500	2888.32	+0.00	+15.22	
FTSE 100	7417.95	-0.05	+10.25	
DJ Stoxx 50	3435.34	+0.31	+14.46	
ISEQ	6280.7	+0.62	+14.62	
Nikkei	21866.87	+0.72	+9.25	









All rates quoted are indicative market rates

See Next Page For More Rates & Charts

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Opening Levels



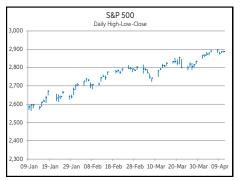
Euro)
EUR/GBP	0.8637
EUR/USD	1.1283
EUR/JPY	126.16
EUR/SEK	10.4585
EUR/DKK	7.4652
EUR/NOK	9.6112
EUR/CHF	1.1312
EUR/AUD	1.5829
EUR/HKD	8.8477
EUR/CAD	1.508

Sterling				
GBP/EUR	1.1571			
GBP/USD	1.3061			
GBP/CAD	1.7456			
GBP/NZD	1.9403			
GBP/JPY	146.02			
GBP/SEK	12.1064			
GBP/DKK	8.6385			
GBP/NOK	11.125			
GBP/CHF	1.3091			
GBP/AUD	1.8317			

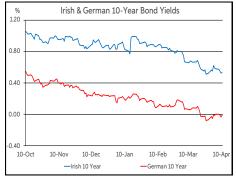
Dollar				
USD/JPY	111.8			
USD/CAD	1.3362			
USD/CHF	1.0023			
USD/CNY	6.719			
USD/BRL	3.857			
USD/RUB	64.546			
USD/INR	69.316			
AUD/USD	0.7126			
NZD/USD	0.673			

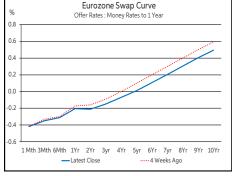












	Debt	Markets	•	
			Change bps	5
	Close	Day	4 Weeks	End 18
10 Year Yield %				
US	2.50	+3	-13	-19
Germany	-0.01	+2	-9	-25
UK	1.15	+6	-7	-12
Ireland	0.53	+1	-13	N/A
Belgium	0.43	+1	-11	-33
France	0.33	+1	-14	-37
Italy	2.51	-4	+2	-20
Spain	1.00	-3	-17	-41
Portugal	1.12	-3	-20	-58
Greece	3.30	-8	-47	-100
US Eurozone UK	2.31 0.01 1.17	+3 +1 +3	-18 -9 -9	-25 -22 -14
2 Year Swap % US	2.41	+1	-17	-23
Eurozone	-0.21	+0	-17 -5	-23 -7
UK	1.01	+2	-7	-15
10 Year Governm	ent Bond Spre	ads to Ben	chmark hns	
Ireland	54	-2	-4	N/A
Belgium	44	-1	-2	-9
France	34	-1	-4	-13
Italy	252	-6	+12	+5
Spain	101	-6	-8	-17
Portugal	113	-6	-11	-34
Greece	331	-11	-38	-75

Commodities					
_	% Change				
	Close	Day	4 Weeks	End 18	
Brent Oil	70.83	-1.25	+5.35	+31.65	
West Texas Oil	63.61	-1.56	+8.57	+40.89	
CRB - All Commodity	187.33	-1.23	+2.15	+10.32	
CRB - Food	345.16	-0.43	+3.88	+6.46	
Gold \$	1292.8	-1.18	-0.28	+0.77	

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