Morning Comment

AIB Treasury Economic Research Unit



Monday 12 August 2019 07:43 am

EUR/GBP at 93p

The action on currency markets last week ended with sterling coming under further downward pressure. The currency hit fresh multi-year lows against the euro and the dollar respectively. Weak Q2 GDP data and concerns about the possibility of a no-deal Brexit impacted the currency.

Sterling weakness sees EUR/GBP open this morning up at 93p, near its weakest levels in the post-referendum period. Meanwhile, GBP/USD is below the midpoint of the \$1.20-1.21 range. At the same time, EUR/USD continues to straddle the \$1.12 handle.

Elsewhere, markets alternated between a 'risk-on' and 'risk-off' mood for much of last week. In addition to a no-deal Brexit, fears of a breakout of a currency war between the US and China and political turmoil in Italy all weighed on sentiment at various stages.

This week, in the UK Q2 labour market data is due. Employment growth looks to have slowed to a crawl, though underlying earnings growth is projected to have hit a new cycle high. Despite strong earnings growth, retail sales are expected to have dipped by 0.3% in July. Overall though, the data may have a negligible impact, as markets remain focussed on Brexit.

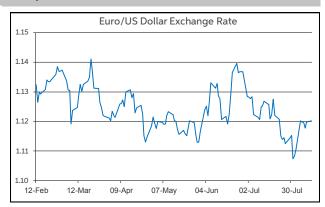
In the US, the July retail sales report is the main highlight of the calendar. Buoyed by a strong labour market, the consensus is for the key control measure of sales to have risen by a solid 0.3%. The data may offer some support to the dollar.

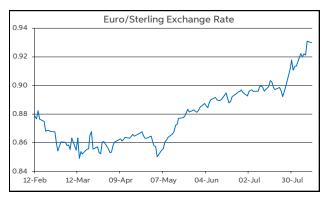
For the euro, the macro calendar is unlikely to be a source of direction for the currency this week. Meantime, market sentiment may continue to exhibit sensitivity to geo-political developments over the week.

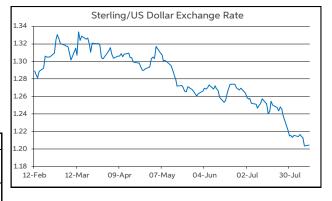
Conor Beakey, Economist. AIB

Today's Opening FX Rates					
		% Change			
		Day *	End 2018		
EUR/USD	1.1201	0.07	-2.34		
EUR/GBP	0.9299	0.80	3.51		
GBP/USD	1.2043	-0.75	-5.60		
GBP/EUR	1.0748	-0.80	-3.39		
USD/JPY	105.41	-0.54	-3.79		
EUR/JPY	118.09	-0.47	-6.06		
* v Previous Day's European Open					
See Next Page for More Rates					

Opening Interest Rates						
	_	Short Term Long Term				
	Base Rate	1-Mth	3-Mth	12-Mth	2-Yr	5-Yr
USD	2.125	2.19	2.18	1.99	1.60	1.47
EUR	0.00	-0.40	-0.40	-0.34	-0.51	-0.44
GBP	0.75	0.71	0.76	0.83	0.64	0.60









All rates quoted are indicative market rates

See Next Page For More Rates & Charts

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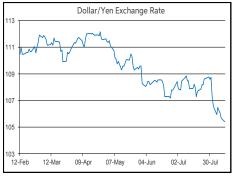
Opening Levels



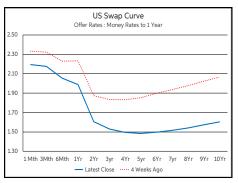
Euro	
EUR/GBP	0.93
EUR/USD	1.1201
EUR/JPY	118.11
EUR/SEK	10.7059
EUR/DKK	7.4637
EUR/NOK	9.9477
EUR/CHF	1.0898
EUR/AUD	1.6518
EUR/HKD	8.7856
EUR/CAD	1.4817

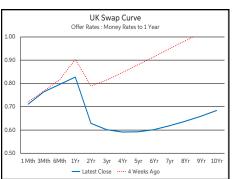
Sterling	
GBP/EUR	1.075
GBP/USD	1.2044
GBP/CAD	1.593
GBP/NZD	1.8623
GBP/JPY	126.96
GBP/SEK	11.5088
GBP/DKK	8.0227
GBP/NOK	10.6951
GBP/CHF	1.1714
GBP/AUD	1.7758

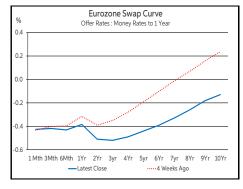
Dollar					
USD/JPY	105.41				
USD/CAD	1.3227				
USD/CHF	0.9727				
USD/CNY	7.0631				
USD/BRL	3.9391				
USD/RUB	65.25				
USD/INR	70.991				
AUD/USD	0.6779				
NZD/USD	0.6465				

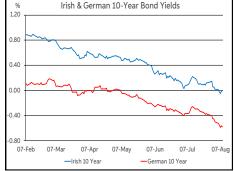












	Debt	Markets		
			Change bps	i
	Close	Day	4 Weeks	End 18
10 Year Yield %				
US	1.74	+2	-38	-94
Germany	-0.58	-2	-32	-82
UK	0.48	-4	-35	-78
Ireland	-0.01	+1	-23	N/A
Belgium	-0.22	+1	-36	-98
France	-0.27	+1	-33	-97
Italy	1.81	+28	+9	-91
Spain	0.24	+4	-31	-118
Portugal	0.27	+4	-37	-144
Greece	2.10	+9	-21	-220
5 Year Swap %				
US	1.49	+4	-37	-108
Eurozone	-0.44	+1	-25	-67
UK	0.59	-5	-29	-72
2 Year Swap %				
US	1.61	+3	-27	-103
Eurozone	-0.51	-2	-12	-37
UK	0.63	-5	-16	-54
10 Year Governi	ment Bond Spre	ads to Ben	chmark bps	
Ireland	57	+2	+10	N/A
Belgium	36	+3	-4	-17
France	31	+3	-1	-16
Italy	239	+30	+41	-9
Spain	82	+6	+1	-36
Portugal	85	+6	-4	-62
Greece	268	+11	+12	-138

Commodities							
		% Change					
	Close Day 4 Weeks End 18						
Brent Oil	58.53	+2.00	-12.28	+8.79			
West Texas Oil	54.41	+3.44	-9.30	+20.51			
Gold \$	1497.6	-0.28	+5.77	+16.74			

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