# **Morning Comment**

### AIB Treasury Economic Research Unit

Friday 02 August 2019 07:17 am

## Trade tensions spooks market

Markets have adopted a risk averse mood overnight as President Trump announced an additional round of tariffs on Chinese exports which will take effect on September 1. The move prompted a sharp decline in US Treasury yields along the curve, while equities came under pressure. In terms of currency impact, the yen has rallied strongly on this newsflow, gaining 1.9% against the dollar.

Earlier in the day, currencies had largely traded in narrow ranges. The BoE's meeting was a non-event for sterling, with the central bank again guiding that it is on hold until the Brexit uncertainty clears. Meantime, UK and US manufacturing data served to confirm that the sector continues to struggle globally. However, there was no notable FX reaction.

In level terms, trading in the non-yen majors has been more subdued. The euro has made some slight gains which sees EUR/USD open in the upper half of the \$1.10-1.11 range, while EUR/GBP is at the midpoint of the 91-92p band. Elsewhere, GBP/USD is down at the \$1.21 threshold.

Today, markets will continue to process the latest escalation in trade tensions and await a response from the Chinese. This environment could see safe haven currencies, such as the yen, continue to hold the upper hand.

Data-wise, there is little out to influence the euro or sterling today. However, in the US the July employment report is due. Non-farm payrolls are forecast at 164k, representing solid jobs growth. At the same time, the unemployment rate is projected to have held at 3.7%, while tight labour market conditions should see wage inflation remain above 3%. In terms of dollar reaction, a strong payroll number could provide some support for the currency.

#### Conor Beakey, Economist, AIB

Today's Opening FX Rates				
		% Change		
		Day *	End 2018	
EUR/USD	1.1086	0.32	-3.34	
EUR/GBP	0.9148	0.40	1.83	
GBP/USD	1.2114	-0.12	-5.04	
GBP/EUR	1.0925	-0.39	-1.79	
USD/JPY	107.05	-1.94	-2.29	
EUR/JPY	118.67	-1.65	-5.60	
* v Previous Day's European Open				
See Next Page for More Rates				

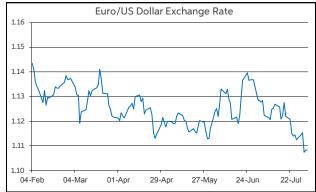
Opening Interest Rates						
		Short Term			Long Term	
	Base Rate	1-Mth	3-Mth	12-Mth	2-Yr	5-Yr
USD	2.375	2.24	2.29	2.24	1.76	1.65
EUR	0.00	-0.39	-0.38	-0.30	-0.46	-0.37
GBP	0.75	0.71	0.77	0.85	0.67	0.66

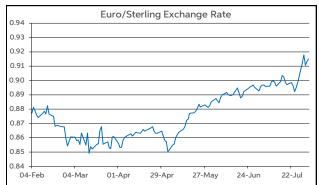
#### All rates quoted are indicative market rates

FX Spot Karl Cooke Shane Gargan Enda Homan

FX Options Mark Tuite Lenny Hogan

Equity Options Gary Luff









#### See Next Page For More Rates & Charts

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## **Opening Levels**

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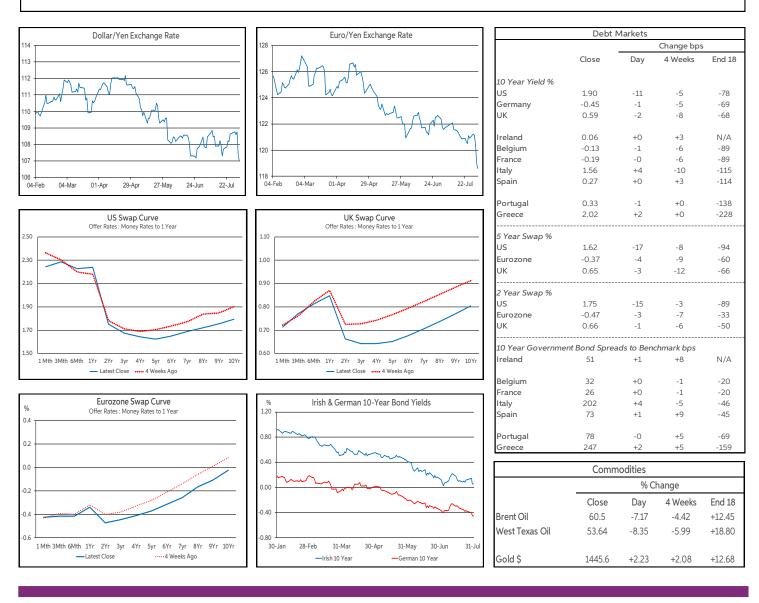


Eu	ro
EUR/GBP	0.9148
EUR/USD	1.1086
EUR/JPY	118.67
EUR/SEK	10.6995
EUR/DKK	7.4663
EUR/NOK	9.848
EUR/CHF	1.0958
EUR/AUD	1.627
EUR/HKD	8.668
EUR/CAD	1.4651

Sterlir	ng
GBP/EUR	1.0925
GBP/USD	1.2114
GBP/CAD	1.6013
GBP/NZD	1.8518
GBP/JPY	129.68
GBP/SEK	11.69
GBP/DKK	8.1579
GBP/NOK	10.7591
GBP/CHF	1.1973
GBP/AUD	1.7783

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Dollar				
USD/JPY	107.05			
USD/CAD	1.3216			
USD/CHF	0.9884			
USD/CNY	6.9383			
USD/BRL	3.8387			
USD/RUB	64.625			
USD/INR	69.41			
AUD/USD	0.6811			
NZD/USD	0.6539			



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