Morning Comment

AIB Treasury Economic Research Unit



Tuesday 07 August 2018 07:30 am

Quiet start to a quiet week

There was a subdued tone to currency markets as the week got underway yesterday. This reflected a sparse schedule of data and events.

As a result, the main FX pairs open this morning broadly unchanged from 24 hours previous. In level terms, EUR/USD has retained its overall softer tone, continuing to trade below the \$1.16 level. Cable (GBP/USD) has continued to trade below \$1.30. Meanwhile, the EUR/GBP pair is currently changing hands just above the 89p mark.

In terms of the outlook for the day ahead, the release schedule remains light on both sides of the Atlantic, with no noteworthy data due. Therefore, we may see currency markets retain their lacklustre tone.

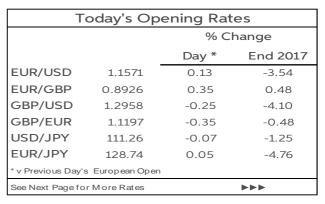
The data/events schedule for the remainder of the week is similarly light. Of the releases which may garner some attention, Friday's first reading of UK GDP for Q2 stands out. Growth was soft in Q1, though data in the second quarter indicated some improvement. Indeed, the consensus forecast is for quarterly growth of 0.4% in Q2, up from 0.2% in Q1. However, with some expectations that UK growth could be set to slow again in the second half of the year, this week's GDP figures may be of limited benefit to sterling.

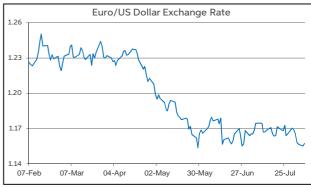
In the US, the dollar will remain sensitive to any trade war related newsflow. Data-wise, US CPI inflation for July is due out, though any meaningful dollar impact seems unlikely. Meantime, the euro could struggle for fresh direction in the coming days, with German and French industrial production for June the only releases of any note.

Dara Turnbull, Economist, AIB

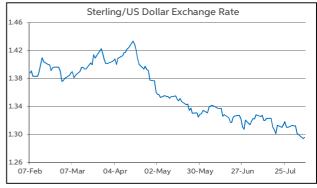
Opening Interest Rates							
		Short Term				Long Term	
	Base Rate	Base Rate 1-Mth 3-Mth 12-Mth		2-Yr	5-Yr		
USD	1.875	2.08	2.34	2.83	2.87	2.95	
EUR	0.00	-0.37	-0.32	-0.18	-0.13	0.32	
GBP	0.75	0.72	0.81	1.05	1.11	1.36	

Equity Indices						
		% Changes				
	Latest Close	on Day End 2017 to Da				
Dow Jones	25502.18	+0.16	+3.17			
S&P 500	2850.4	+0.35	+6.61			
FTSE 100	7663.78	+0.06	-0.31			
DJ Stoxx 50	3483.3	+0.03	-0.59			
ISEQ	6817.28	+0.39	-3.14			
Nikkei	22662.74	+0.69	-0.45			









All rates quoted are indicative market rates

See Next Page For More Rates & Charts

FX Spot	Karl Cooke Shane Gargan Adrian Flanagan	FX Options	Mark Tuite Lenny Hogan	Reuters Phone	AIBI 00353-1-7724018	Morning Comment	John Fahey john.j.fahey@aib.ie
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Opening Levels

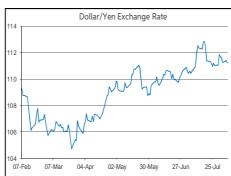


Euro	
EUR/GBP	0.8926
EUR/USD	1.1571
EUR/JPY	128.74
EUR/SEK	10.321
EUR/DKK	7.4522
EUR/NOK	9.5162
EUR/CHF	1.1517
EUR/AUD	1.5601
EUR/HKD	9.0804
EUR/CAD	1.5018

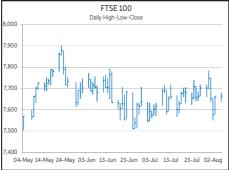
Sterling					
GBP/EUR	1.1197				
GBP/USD	1.2959				
GBP/CAD	1.6821				
GBP/NZD	1.9235				
GBP/JPY	144.18				
GBP/SEK	11.5606				
GBP/DKK	8.3449				
GBP/NOK	10.6596				
GBP/CHF	1.2899				
GBP/AUD	1.7469				

Dollar					
USD/JPY	111.26				
USD/CAD	1.2979				
USD/CHF	0.9952				
USD/CNY	6.8457				
USD/BRL	3.7359				
USD/RUB	63.5765				
USD/INR	68.77				
AUD/USD	0.7413				
NZD/USD	0.6735				













Debt Markets							
			Change bps				
	Close	Day	4 Weeks	End 17			
10 Year Yield %							
US	2.94	-1	+9	+54			
Germany	0.38	-2	+8	-4			
UK	1.30	-3	+3	+12			
Ireland	0.85	-1	+7	N/A			
Belgium	0.72	-4	+5	+11			
France	0.71	-3	+7	-7			
Italy	2.89	-3	+23	+89			
Spain	1.37	-3	+9	-17			
Portugal	1.74	-3	-3	-16			
Greece	3.94	-9	+8	-10			
US Eurozone UK	2.91 0.31 1.35	-4 -2 -4	+3 +3 +4	+67 -1 +32			
UK	1.35	-4	+4	+32			
2 Year Swap %							
US	2.82	-3	+2	+73			
Eurozone	-0.15	-1	+1	-0			
UK	1.10	-2	+5	+30			
10 Year Governme	10 Year Government Bond Spreads to Benchmark bps						
Ireland	47	+1	-1	N/A			
Belgium	34	-1	-3	+15			
France	33	-O	-1	-3			
Italy	251	-O	+15	+93			
Spain	99	-1	+1	-14			
Portugal	135	-O	-11	-12			
Greece	356	-7	-1	-6			

Commodities						
_	% Change					
	Close Day 4 Weeks End 17					
Brent Oil	73.75	+0.74	-5.53	+10.29		
West Texas Oil	69.01	+0.76	-6.65	+14.14		
CRB - All Commodity CRB - Food	193.93 336.46	+0.36 +1.29	-2.17 -3.72	+0.03 +0.12		
Gold \$	1207.8	-0.50	-4.00	-7.28		

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