Morning Comment

AIB Treasury Economic Research Unit



Trade deal delayed, but seems close

Yesterday, markets continued to digest news of a Covid-19 vaccine approval in the UK and renewed hope of fiscal stimulus in the US, against the backdrop of ongoing EU-UK trade negotiations and pandemic induced restrictions. Currency-wise, broad dollar weakness persisted, while sterling was slightly firmer throughout the day. However, the pound handed back its gains against the euro overnight, although, a trade deal seems to be close.

Data-wise, November's US non-manufacturing ISM remained in expansion mood, at 55.9. The services PMI in the US was also revised higher to 58.4 in November from 57.7. This suggests that the recovery has maintained momentum in Q4. Initial jobless claims also beat expectations, printing at 712K below the consensus 775k. In the Eurozone, retail sales increased by 1.5% in October, and are now 3.1% above their pre-pandemic levels.

Meanwhile, EU-UK trade talks are continuing. However, some issues remain to be resolved with reports this morning suggesting that a deal is unlikely to be concluded until after the weekend. There is a tight deadline to ratify any deal before the end of the transition period on 31st December.

In level terms, broad dollar weakness sees EUR/USD open this morning near the midpoint of \$1.21-\$1.22. Meanwhile, EUR/GBP is trading near to 90.5p. Cable (GBP/USD) is changing hands near the halfway mark of the \$1.34-1.35 range.

Today, the main release will be the November US labour report. The forecast is for payrolls to rise by 469k, while the jobless rate is expected to fall to 6.8% from 6.9%. Elsewhere, trade talk newsflow will continue to act as a source of direction for sterling. **Daniel Noonan, Economist, AIB**

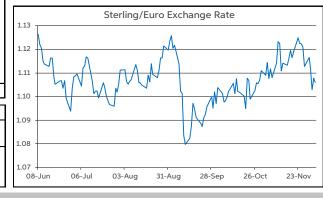
Today's Opening FX Rates				
		% Change		
	_	Day *	End 2019	
EUR/USD	1.2153	0.30	8.41	
EUR/GBP	0.904	-0.11	6.93	
GBP/USD	1.3442	0.41	1.38	
GBP/EUR	1.1057	0.11	-6.48	
USD/JPY	103.88	-0.55	-4.36	
EUR/JPY	126.27	-0.24	3.64	
* v Previous Day's European Open				
See Next Page for More Rates				

Opening Interest Rates						
	Money Market Swap Rates					
	Base Rate	1-Mth	3-Mth	1-Yr	2-Yr	5-Yr
USD	0.125	0.15	0.23	0.20	0.25	0.45
EUR	0.00	-0.55	-0.52	-0.52	-0.51	-0.45
GBP	0.10	0.04	0.04	0.04	0.10	0.27

Euro/US Dollar Exchange Rate







All rates quoted are indicative market rates

FX Spot Karl Cooke Shane Gargan Enda Homan FX Options Mark Tuite

Reuters AIBG.I Phone 00353-1-7724018 See Next Page For More Rates & Charts

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Equity Options Gary Luff

Opening Levels

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Eur	о
EUR/GBP	0.904
EUR/USD	1.2153
EUR/JPY	126.27
EUR/SEK	10.2535
EUR/DKK	7.4434
EUR/NOK	10.6402
EUR/CHF	1.0827
EUR/AUD	1.636
EUR/HKD	9.419
EUR/CAD	1.5628

Sterling		
GBP/EUR	1.1057	
GBP/USD	1.3442	
GBP/CAD	1.7285	
GBP/NZD	1.9032	
GBP/JPY	139.64	
GBP/SEK	11.3363	
GBP/DKK	8.2306	
GBP/NOK	11.7647	
GBP/CHF	1.1972	
GBP/AUD	1.8094	

Dollar				
USD/JPY	103.88			
USD/CAD	1.2858			
USD/CHF	0.8906			
USD/CNY	6.5333			
USD/BRL	5.1515			
USD/RUB	74.1941			
USD/INR	73.75			
AUD/USD	0.7429			
NZD/USD	0.7058			



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