Morning Comment

AIB Treasury Economic Research Unit



Monday 05 February 2018 07:28 am

BoE the main event this week

The dollar experienced some volatility on currency markets last week. Although, moves were within recent ranges. A somewhat more upbeat view from the Fed with regard to US inflation and firmer than expected labour market data helped to provide some good news for the dollar.

The main dollar pairs come into this morning broadly unchanged versus seven days previous. The EUR/USD pair is trading in the lower half of the \$1.24-1.25 band. Some yen weakness and dollar gains have seen USD/JPY trade back up near ¥110.

Elsewhere, some domestic political uncertainty over the weekend has been unhelpful to sterling. Cable (GBP/USD) opens back at the \$1.41 mark, while EUR/GBP is trading above 88p.

In the week ahead, the main calendar event is the BoE meeting. While no policy changes are expected, the Inflation Report, minutes and press conference will all be looked to for updated guidance on the outlook for rates.

Both inflation and growth have been firmer than expected at the time of the November Inflation Report, meaning the BoE could adopt a somewhat more hawkish tone. Overall though, the MPC seems unlikely to deviate too much from the message that rate increases will be limited and gradual. Thus, while sterling may see some sensitive to BoE newsflow, overall reaction could be muted.

The data schedule is relatively light on both sides of the Atlantic. The UK services PMI (Jan), Eurozone retail sales (Dec) and the US non-manufacturing ISM (Jan) are the pick of the releases. Overall then, currency market moves over the next few days may be prompted by developments beyond the data/events calendar.

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Opening Interest Rates						
		Short Term			Long Term	
	Base Rate	1-Mth	3-Mth	12-Mth	2-Yr	5-Yr
USD	1.375	1.58	1.79	2.29	2.38	2.68
EUR	0.00	-0.37	-0.33	-0.19	-0.11	0.51
GBP	0.50	0.50	0.53	0.82	0.97	1.38

Equity Indices				
		% Changes		
	Latest Close	on Day	End 2017 to Date	
Dow Jones	25520.96	-2.54	+3.24	
S&P 500	2762.13	-2.12	+3.31	
FTSE 100	7443.43	-0.63	-3.18	
DJ Stoxx 50	3523.28	-1.51	+0.55	
ISEQ	6885.23	-0.88	-2.17	
Nikkei	22682.08	-2.55	-0.36	

Today's Opening Rates % Change Day * End 2017 **EUR/USD** 1.2448 -0.37 3 77 EUR/GBP 0.8827 0.74 -0.63 GBP/USD 1.4099 4 34 -1 11 GBP/EUR 1.1325 -0.74 0.63 USD/JPY 109.93 0.26 -2.43 **EUR/JPY** 1 23 136.84 -0.12v Previous Day's European Open See Next Page for More Rates \triangleright







All rates quoted are indicative market rates

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FX Spot Karl Cooke FX Options Mark Tuite Reuters AlBI Morning Comment John Fahey Shane Gargan Adrian Flanagan Enda Homan Equity Options Gary Luff

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Opening Levels



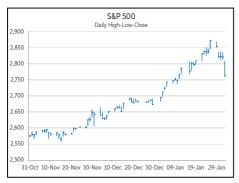
Euro	
EUR/GBP	0.8827
EUR/USD	1.2448
EUR/JPY	136.84
EUR/SEK	9.8446
EUR/DKK	7.4424
EUR/NOK	9.6369
EUR/CHF	1.1586
EUR/AUD	1.57
EUR/HKD	9.7342
EUR/CAD	1.5454

Sterling				
GBP/EUR	1.1325			
GBP/USD	1.4099			
GBP/CAD	1.7504			
GBP/NZD	1.9307			
GBP/JPY	154.99			
GBP/SEK	11.1442			
GBP/DKK	8.4295			
GBP/NOK	10.9143			
GBP/CHF	1.3119			
GBP/AUD	1.7781			

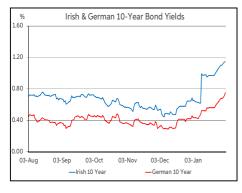
Dollar				
USD/JPY	109.93			
USD/CAD	1.2415			
USD/CHF	0.9306			
USD/CNY	6.2958			
USD/BRL	3.218			
USD/RUB	56.5677			
USD/INR	64.06			
AUD/USD	0.7928			
NZD/USD	0.7299			













	Debt	Markets			
			Change bps	;	
	Close	Day	4 Weeks	End 17	
10 Year Yield %					
US	2.84	+6	+36	+44	
Germany	0.75	+5	+32	+33	
UK	1.56	+4	+32	+38	
Ireland	1.15	+1	N/A	N/A	
Belgium	0.88	+4	+24	+27	
France	1.00	+4	+21	+22	
Italy	2.03	+8	+4	+4	
Spain	1.45	+4	-5	-9	
Portugal	1.98	+5	+7	+8	
Greece	3.59	-6	-13	-45	
5 Year Swap %					
US	2.66	+1	+35	+42	
Eurozone	0.47	-2	+15	+15	
UK	1.37	+3	+30	+34	
2 Year Swap %					
US	2.34	-0	+21	+26	
Eurozone	-0.13	-2	+0	+1	
UK	0.95	-1	+14	+15	
10 Year Government Bond Spreads to Benchmark bps					
Ireland	39	-4	N/A	N/A	
Belgium	13	-1	-8	-6	
France	25	-1	-11	-11	
Italy	128	+4	-28	-29	
Spain	70	-1	-37	-42	
Portugal	122	+0	-24	-25	
Greece	284	-11	-45	-78	

Commodities				
_	% Change			
	Close	Day	4 Weeks	End 17
Brent Oil	68.58	-1.54	+1.42	+2.56
West Texas Oil	65.5	-0.64	+6.52	+8.34
CRB - All Commodity	198.35	+0.49	+1.53	+2.31
CRB - Food	346.89	+0.66	+1.50	+3.23
Gold \$	1333.0	-1.23	+0.94	+2.33

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