## **Morning Comment**

AIB Treasury Economic Research Unit



## **Risk appetite recovers**

There was an improvement in risk appetite yesterday as it appeared concerns about the Coronavirus abated somewhat (although sentiment is likely to remain sensitive to newsflow on the issue). This 'risk on' mood was reflected in equity markets registering gains following their falls the previous day. At the close on Wall Street, the S&P 500 was up by 1% on the day.

Meanwhile, once again, the action on currency markets remained confined to narrow trading ranges. Data-wise, the main releases were from the US diary. Overall, it was a mixed bag of results. Core durable goods orders fell unexpectedly in December. On the other hand, the Conference Board measure of consumer confidence for January surprised to the upside of forecasts, recording a larger than anticipated increase in the month. However, the dollar showed minimal interest/reaction to the second tier data.

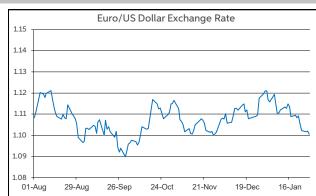
So as trading gets underway this morning, of the limited FX action to register over the past 24 hours, sterling is holding a slightly softer tone. This is evident in EUR/GBP opening up at the midpoint of 84-85p. At the same time, cable (GBP/USD) has edged back down towards the \$1.30 level. Elsewhere, EUR/USD remains pinned down near to the \$1.10 level.

Today, the Fed will conclude (after close in Europe) its January policy meeting. However, it will likely be a non-event for the dollar, with no changes to rates anticipated. The market is still looking for another 25bps of easing by end-year, but Chair Powell has been indicating that the central bank is on hold in the near-term.

Elsewhere there is little data out to influence either sterling or the euro today. Sterling may experience some volatility with tomorrow's much anticipated BoE meeting looming on the horizon. **John Fahey, Senior Economist, AIB** 

Today's Opening FX Rates				
		% Change		
		Day *	End 2019	
EUR/USD	1.1005	-0.15	-1.83	
EUR/GBP	0.8456	0.20	0.02	
GBP/USD	1.3011	-0.34	-1.87	
GBP/EUR	1.182	-0.20	-0.02	
USD/JPY	109.06	0.04	0.41	
EUR/JPY	120.05	-0.08	-1.46	
* 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
1.625	1.65	1.77	1.83	1.51	1.46
0.00	-0.45	-0.40	-0.26	-0.33	-0.24
0.75	0.62	0.69	0.80	0.64	0.66
	1.625 0.00	Base Rate 1-Mth   1.625 1.65   0.00 -0.45	Base Rate 1-Mth 3-Mth   1.625 1.65 1.77   0.00 -0.45 -0.40	Short Term   Base Rate 1-Mth 3-Mth 12-Mth   1.625 1.65 1.77 1.83   0.00 -0.45 -0.40 -0.26	Short Term Long   Base Rate 1-Mth 3-Mth 12-Mth 2-Yr   1.625 1.65 1.77 1.83 1.51   0.00 -0.45 -0.40 -0.26 -0.33









## 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

Morning Comment John Fahey john.j.fahey@aib.ie

Equity Options Gary Luff

## **Opening Levels**

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Euro				
EUR/GBP	0.8456			
EUR/USD	1.1005			
EUR/JPY	120.05			
EUR/SEK	10.584			
EUR/DKK	7.4726			
EUR/NOK	10.042			
EUR/CHF	1.0723			
EUR/AUD	1.627			
EUR/HKD	8.5524			
EUR/CAD	1.4493			

Sterling		
GBP/EUR	1.182	
GBP/USD	1.3011	
GBP/CAD	1.7134	
GBP/NZD	1.9914	
GBP/JPY	141.9	
GBP/SEK	12.5077	
GBP/DKK	8.8341	
GBP/NOK	11.8733	
GBP/CHF	1.2676	
GBP/AUD	1.9235	

Dollar				
USD/JPY	109.06			
USD/CAD	1.3166			
USD/CHF	0.9742			
USD/CNY	6.9364			
USD/BRL	4.1947			
USD/RUB	62.355			
USD/INR	71.24			
AUD/USD	0.6763			
NZD/USD	0.6531			



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