Morning Comment

AIB Treasury Economic Research Unit



Tuesday 30 January 2018 07:29 am

Dollar regains some ground

There was a cautious tone on financial markets as the week got underway. On the equities front, the S&P 500 closed down 0.7% on the day. Elsewhere, sovereign bond yields rose, with the German 10-year bund yield up 6bps to 0.68%, its highest level since November 2015, while 10-year US yields hit 2.7%.

On the currency front, comments from President Trump criticising the terms of US-EU trade coincided with some support for the dollar and euro weakness. Meantime, political concerns around the 'solidity' of UK PM May's position, as well as potential difficulties in the UK-EU Brexit talks, proved unhelpful for sterling.

In level terms, EUR/USD has been unable to hold above \$1.24. Cable (GBP/USD) fell below \$1.41, opening this morning near \$1.402. Meanwhile, a slightly softer sterling has seen EUR/GBP edged back above the 88p level.

There is a busy schedule in the day ahead. Data-wise, the flash estimate of Eurozone Q4 GDP is due. Very strong survey data in the quarter suggest that the risks to the 0.6% consensus forecast are to the upside. Either way, the data should confirm that the economy grew by 2.5% in 2017, its best performance in a decade. The data may help to provide some support for the euro today.

For sterling, BoE Governor Carney is set to appear before a parliamentary committee this afternoon. He will face questions on the outlook for monetary policy, and thus, the event may pose some event risk for the currency. Overnight in the US, President Trump will deliver his first 'State of the Union' address (2am GMT). Markets will be interested to see what Trump has to say on trade issues, given his recent aforementioned 'protectionist' rhetoric. Thus, the dollar could be sensitive to the President's comments. Dara Turnbull, Economist, AIB

Opening Interest Rates							
	Short Term			1	Long Term		
	Base Rate	1-Mth	3-Mth	12-Mth	2-Yr	5-Yr	
USD	1.375	1.57	1.77	2.26	2.34	2.55	
EUR	0.00	-0.37	-0.33	-0.19	-0.11	0.48	
GBP	0.50	0.49	0.53	0.81	0.94	1.29	
Equity Indices							
				% Changes			
	Late	Latest Close		Day	End 201	.7 to Date	
Dow Jones	26439.48		-(0.67	+6.96		
S&P 500	2853.53		-(-0.67		+6.73	
FTSE 100	7671.53		+(+0.08		-0.21	
DJ Stoxx 50	3643.04		-(-0.12		+3.97	
ISEQ	7059.28		-0	-0.55		+0.30	
Nikkei	23	23291.97		-1.43		+2.32	

Today's Opening Rates					
		% Change			
		Day *	End 2017		
EUR/USD	1.2361	-0.41	3.04		
EUR/GBP	0.8815	0.36	-0.77		
GBP/USD	1.4019	-0.80	3.75		
GBP/EUR	1.1338	-0.36	0.77		
USD/JPY	108.7	-0.07	-3.52		
EUR/JPY	134.37	-0.50	-0.60		
* v Previous Day's European Open					
See Next Page fo	r More Rates				







All rates quoted are indicative market rates

FX Spot	Karl Cooke Shane Gargan Adrian Flanagan Enda Homan

FX Options Mark Tuite Lenny Hogan Equity Options Gary Luff

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Opening Levels

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108.7 1.2364 0.9371 6.3342 3.1549 56.2501 63.745

0.8059

Euro		Sterl	ing	Dollar	
EUR/GBP	0.8815	GBP/EUR	1.1338	USD/JPY	
EUR/USD	1.2361	GBP/USD	1.4019	USD/CAD	
EUR/JPY	134.37	GBP/CAD	1.7335	USD/CHF	
EUR/SEK	9.781	GBP/NZD	1.9175	USD/CNY	
EUR/DKK	7.4426	GBP/JPY	152.39	USD/BRL	
EUR/NOK	9.5843	GBP/SEK	11.0897	USD/RUB	
EUR/CHF	1.1586	GBP/DKK	8.4391	USD/INR	
EUR/AUD	1.5337	GBP/NOK	10.8706		
EUR/HKD	9.6642	GBP/CHF	1.314	AUD/USD	
EUR/CAD	1.5284	GBP/AUD	1.7394	NZD/USD	



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