Morning Comment

AIB Treasury Economic Research Unit



PMI revisions aid sterling

Currency market action has been relatively muted over the past 24 hours. Although, sterling has moved slightly higher, aided by upward revisions made to the PMI figures for December. The final services index improved to 50, from 49.1, which helped lift the composite PMI to 49.3 (48.5).

Similarly, the release of better than expected December PMIs in the Eurozone was somewhat supportive of the euro. Notably, the German composite index moved back into expansionary territory for the first time in four months.

In level terms, the modest gains for sterling have seen EUR/GBP edge back to the 85p level. At the same time, GBP/USD is trading near the midpoint of the \$1.31-1.32 range. Meantime, EUR/USD is changing hands in the upper half of the \$1.11-1.12 band.

Elsewhere, market sentiment recovered somewhat yesterday, as investors concerns about geopolitical tensions faded slightly. Equities generally moved higher, with the S&P 500 gaining 0.4% on the day, while in overnight trading the Nikkei was up 1.6%.

Today, flash December inflation figures are the highlight in the Eurozone. Core HICP is projected at 1.5%, which would represent a 6-year high. However, the pick-up in inflation appears to be down to technical factors. Subdued growth also poses some downside risk to the forecast, which would be slightly unhelpful for the euro.

In the US, the non-manufacturing ISM for December is due. If the data mirror the US PMIs and beat expectations, the release could be a positive for the dollar. Meantime, there is little out to influence sterling, though Brexit newsflow may return into focus with the House of Commons reconvening today.

Conor Beakey, Economist, AIB

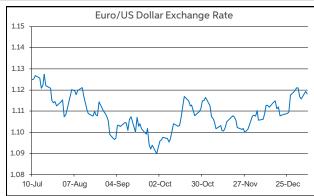
Today's Opening FX Rates					
		% Change			
		Day *	End 2019		
EUR/USD	1.1184	0.22	-0.23		
EUR/GBP	0.8499	-0.39	0.53		
GBP/USD	1.3155	0.57	-0.78		
GBP/EUR	1.1761	0.39	-0.53		
USD/JPY	108.42	-0.20	-0.17		
EUR/JPY	121.26	0.55	-0.47		
* v Previous Day's European Open					
See Next Page for More Rates					

Opening Interest Rates							
	Short Term			Long Term			
e Rate 1-	Mth 3	-Mth	12-Mth	2-Yr	5-Yr		
625 1	L.69	1.87	1.95	1.62	1.60		
.00 -0	0.44	-0.38	-0.24	-0.31	-0.18		
0.75 0	0.70	0.79	0.96	0.80	0.86		
	625 1 .00 -(e Rate 1-Mth 3 625 1.69 .00 -0.44	e Rate 1-Mth 3-Mth 3-Mth <t< td=""><td>e Rate 1-Mth 3-Mth 12-Mth 625 1.69 1.87 1.95 .00 -0.44 -0.38 -0.24</td><td>e Rate 1-Mth 3-Mth 12-Mth 2-Yr 625 1.69 1.87 1.95 1.62 .00 -0.44 -0.38 -0.24 -0.31</td></t<>	e Rate 1-Mth 3-Mth 12-Mth 625 1.69 1.87 1.95 .00 -0.44 -0.38 -0.24	e Rate 1-Mth 3-Mth 12-Mth 2-Yr 625 1.69 1.87 1.95 1.62 .00 -0.44 -0.38 -0.24 -0.31		

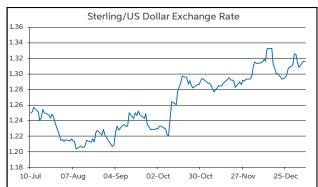
All rates quoted are indicative market rates

FX Spot Karl Cooke Shane Gargan Enda Homan

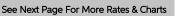
FX Options Mark Tuite











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Opening Levels

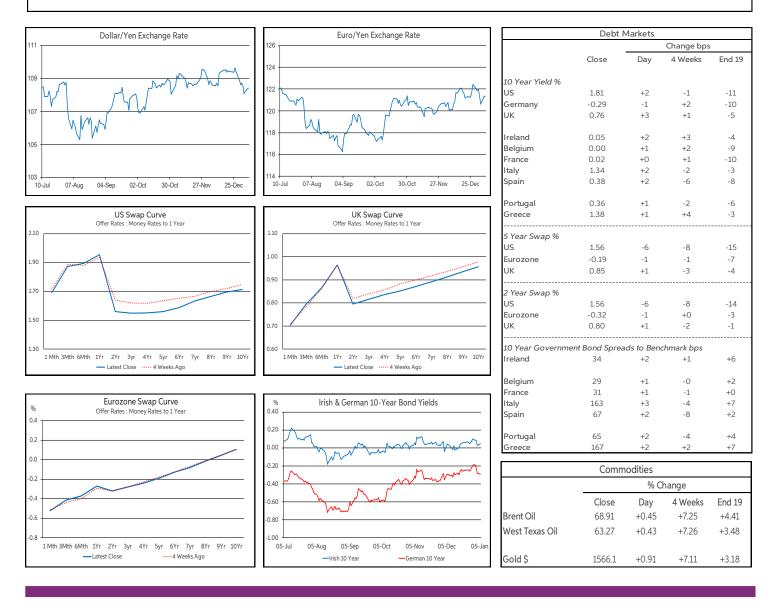
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Euro	C
EUR/GBP	0.8499
EUR/USD	1.1184
EUR/JPY	121.26
EUR/SEK	10.525
EUR/DKK	7.4727
EUR/NOK	9.8333
EUR/CHF	1.0848
EUR/AUD	1.6167
EUR/HKD	8.6918
EUR/CAD	1.4499

Sterling				
GBP/EUR	1.1761			
GBP/USD	1.3155			
GBP/CAD	1.7057			
GBP/NZD	1.9755			
GBP/JPY	142.63			
GBP/SEK	12.3775			
GBP/DKK	8.791			
GBP/NOK	11.5637			
GBP/CHF	1.2765			
GBP/AUD	1.902			

Dollar				
108.42				
1.2962				
0.9698				
6.9447				
4.0619				
61.7934				
71.7125				
0.6917				
0.6657				



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