Morning Comment

AIB Treasury Economic Research Unit



Thursday 18 July 2019 07:19 am

Muted FX action

Currency markets adopted a subdued tone vesterday. A relatively quiet macro schedule, as well as a lack of Brexit-related newsflow, meant there was little to provide direction to the main pairs. Elsewhere, weak corporate earnings have seen equities under pressure. Wall Street closed 0.7% lower, while in overnight trading the Nikkei shed over 2%.

Data-wise, the highlight on this side of the Atlantic was UK CPI for June. However, with both headline and core inflation printing in line with expectations (2% and 1.8% respectively), there was no impact on sterling. In the US, the only release of any note was US housing starts for June. The data disappointed slightly to the downside but given their second tier nature, there was no reaction in the dollar.

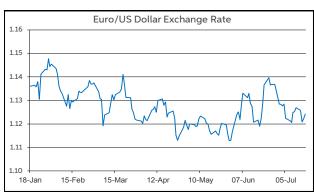
In level terms, the muted action on forex markets sees the main pairs open this morning broadly unchanged from 24 hours previous. EUR/USD remains in the lower half of the \$1.12-1.13 band, while EUR/GBP continues to change hands above the 90p threshold. GBP/USD is still trading within the \$1.24-1.25 range

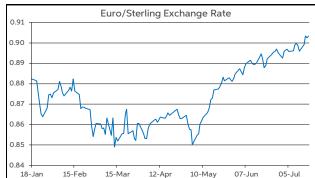
Turning to the day ahead, the macro agenda is once again barren in the Eurozone. Meanwhile, in the UK, June retail sales are due. In spite of good real wage rises over the past number of months, the forecast is for a 0.3% fall in sales, which would represent a third consecutive monthly fall. The impact on sterling, though, may be limited given the market's preoccupation with Brexit.

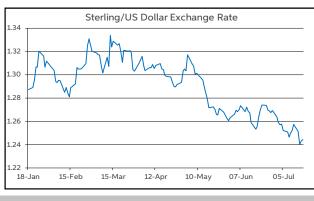
The US calendar is unlikely to provoke much of a move in the dollar today. The July reading of the Philly Fed index is due, although the regional complexion of the data means it may not attract much attention from a currency perspective. Conor Beakey, Economist, AIB

Opening Interest Rates Short Term Lona Term Base Rate 1-Mth 3-Mth 12-Mth 5-Yr 2-Yr USD 2.375 2.30 2.30 2.22 1.84 1.79 FUR 0.00 -0.40 -0.37 -0.29 -0.41 -0.26 GBP 0.75 0.72 0.77 0.88 0.75 0.81 Equity Indices % Changes Latest Close on Day End 2018 to Date Dow Jones 27219 85 -0.42 +16.69 S&P 500 2984 42 -0.65 +19.05 **FTSE 100** 7535.46 -0.55 +12.00DJ Stoxx 50 3501.58 -0.56 +16.66 ISEQ 6313.43 -1.05 +15 21Nikkei 21004 78 -2 16 +4.95

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Today's Opening Rates				
		% Change		
		Day *	End 2018	
EUR/USD	1.1243	0.27	-1.97	
EUR/GBP	0.9034	0.07	0.56	
GBP/USD	1.2443	0.19	-2.46	
GBP/EUR	1.1065	-0.07	-0.55	
USD/JPY	107.63	-0.51	-1.76	
EUR/JPY	121.01	-0.27	-3.74	
* v Previous Day's European Open				
See Next Page for More Rates				







All rates quoted are indicative market rates



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Equity Options Gary Luff

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Opening Levels

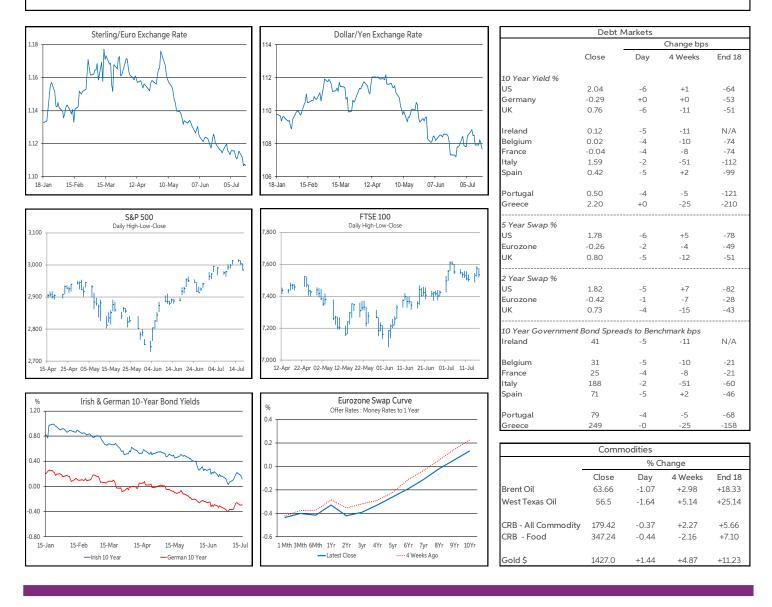
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Eur	О
EUR/GBP	0.9034
EUR/USD	1.1243
EUR/JPY	121.01
EUR/SEK	10.516
EUR/DKK	7.4674
EUR/NOK	9.6421
EUR/CHF	1.1072
EUR/AUD	1.5974
EUR/HKD	8.7821
EUR/CAD	1.467

Sterling				
GBP/EUR	1.1065			
GBP/USD	1.2443			
GBP/CAD	1.6238			
GBP/NZD	1.8444			
GBP/JPY	133.92			
GBP/SEK	11.6325			
GBP/DKK	8.2638			
GBP/NOK	10.6732			
GBP/CHF	1.2252			
GBP/AUD	1.768			

Dollar				
USD/JPY	107.63			
USD/CAD	1.3048			
USD/CHF	0.9847			
USD/CNY	6.8768			
USD/BRL	3.7632			
USD/RUB	62.8475			
USD/INR	68.865			
AUD/USD	0.7038			
NZD/USD	0.6745			



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