Morning Comment

AIB Treasury Economic Research Unit



Thursday 04 July 2019 07:18 am

Bonds continue to rally

The moves on FX markets were limited yesterday. However, bond markets have continued their strong rally. For instance, in the UK, following BoE Governor Mark Carney's comments on Tuesday, the yield on 10-year Gilts declined further to trade around the 0.7% level, a near 3-year low.

In the Eurozone, there were gains across the region. This included a 24bp drop in Italian 10-year yields. Debt investors have reacted positively to the likely appointment of Christine Lagarde as ECB President, as well as recent positive developments in the Italian-EU budget stand-off. Irish 10-year yields have fallen to just 0.07%, while 10-year German yields are at -0.4%, both record lows.

Data-wise, yesterday saw the release of the UK services PMI for June. The index surprised to the downside of expectations, falling to just 50.2 (f'cast 51.0). It is now barely consistent with a positive level of growth. Across the Atlantic, the June reading of the nonmanufacturing ISM similarly disappointed. However, at 55.0 it continues to point to a good level of activity in the sector. Overall though, currency reaction to the day's data was minimal.

In level terms, the main pairs open this morning broadly unchanged from 24 hours previous. EUR/USD remains below the \$1.13 level, while EUR/GBP continues to trade in the upper half of the 89-90p band. Elsewhere, GBP/USD is still trading below the \$1.26 threshold.

Today, a market holiday in the US combined with a quiet data calendar could mean that the main pairs will again operate within very narrow bands. We do get Eurozone retail sales data for May (f'cast +0.3%), but in the absence of a major surprise, they are unlikely to prompt a major move in the euro. 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 2.36 2.29 2.18 1.80 1.72 EUR 0.00 -0.39 -0.35 -0.23 -0.40 -0.27 GBP 0.75 0.72 0.76 0.88 0.73 0.78 Equity Indices % Changes Latest Close on Day End 2018 to Date Dow Jones 26966 +0.67 +15.60 S&P 500 2995.82 +0.77+19 51 **FTSE 100** 7609.32 +0.66 +13.10DJ Stoxx 50 3540.63 +0.93+17.97ISEQ 6347.28 +1.85+15 83 Nikkei 21697.79 +0.28+8.41

Today's Opening Rates				
		% Change		
		Day *	End 2018	
EUR/USD	1.1282	-0.04	-1.63	
EUR/GBP	0.8969	0.04	-0.17	
GBP/USD	1.2579	-0.06	-1.40	
GBP/EUR	1.1147	-0.04	0.17	
USD/JPY	107.79	0.16	-1.62	
EUR/JPY	121.64	0.13	-3.24	
* v Previous Day's European Open				
See Next Page for More Rates				







All rates quoted are indicative market rates

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Opening Levels

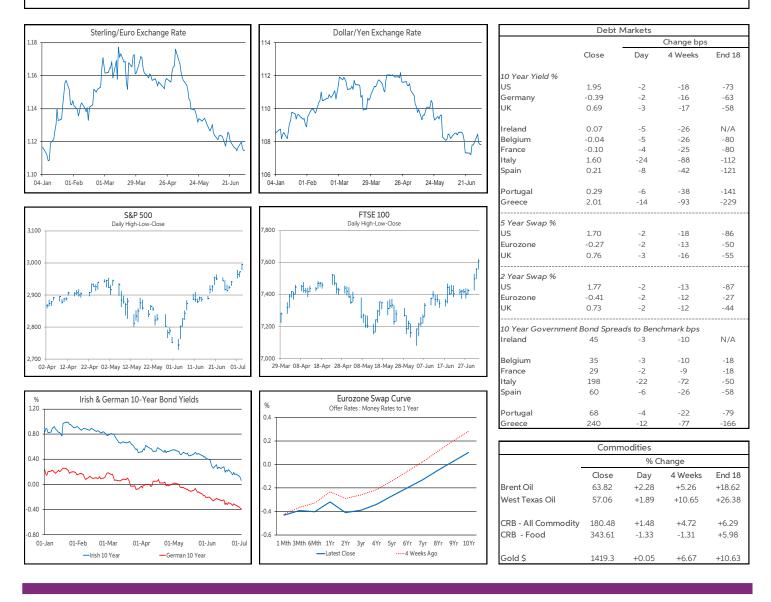
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Euro	
EUR/GBP	0.8969
EUR/USD	1.1282
EUR/JPY	121.64
EUR/SEK	10.505
EUR/DKK	7.4626
EUR/NOK	9.6252
EUR/CHF	1.1131
EUR/AUD	1.6038
EUR/HKD	8.7804
EUR/CAD	1.4743

Sterling	g
GBP/EUR	1.1147
GBP/USD	1.2579
GBP/CAD	1.6442
GBP/NZD	1.8757
GBP/JPY	135.59
GBP/SEK	11.712
GBP/DKK	8.3183
GBP/NOK	10.73
GBP/CHF	1.2409
GBP/AUD	1.7881

Dollar			
107.79			
1.3067			
0.9863			
6.8707			
3.8263			
63.3132			
68.845			
0.7035			
0.6704			



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