Morning Comment

AIB Treasury Economic Research Unit



Friday 06 July 2018 07:29 am

US payrolls and UK politics in focus

Currency market moves were confined to narrow ranges yesterday. For sterling, upbeat comments from BoE Governor Carney provided no lasting impact for the currency. However, Brexit related uncertainty ahead of a key meeting of the UK government today was unhelpful. For the dollar, last night's Fed meeting minutes provided little in the way of new information regarding the outlook for US monetary policy. Thus, FX market reaction was limited. The euro has seen some modest gains on the day, though.

In level terms, a slightly firmer euro is reflected in EUR/USD opening this morning above the \$1.17 mark, while the EUR/GBP pair is trading close to the mid-point of the 88-89p band. Meanwhile, cable (GBP/USD) continues to trade just above the \$1.32 level.

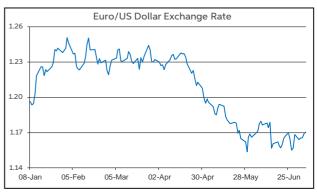
Equity markets rose yesterday, aided by reports that the Trump administration was willing to find a compromise with the EU to avoid new trade tariffs. The Euro Stoxx 50 rose by 0.9%, while the S&P 500 was up by the same amount at the close on Wall Street.

In the day ahead, the main focus for markets will be the US employment report for June. The key non-farm payrolls number is expected to show a strong 195k increase. Earnings growth is also forecast to edge up slightly. Thus, the data could provide a positive backdrop for the dollar.

Elsewhere, sterling watchers will be keeping a close eye on the aforementioned meeting of the UK cabinet. Prime Minister May hopes to reach agreement with her ministers on the plan for the UK's future trading relationship with the EU. Meaningful progress on the issue has the potential to provide some support to sterling. **Dara Turnbull, Economist, AIB**

Opening Interest Rates								
			Long Term					
E	Base Rate	1-Mth	3-Mth	12-Mth	2-Yr	5-Yr		
USD	1.875	2.10	2.34	2.78	2.81	2.88		
EUR	0.00	-0.37	-0.32	-0.18	-0.16	0.27		
GBP	0.50	0.52	0.71	1.00	1.05	1.30		
Equity Indices								
				% Changes				
	Latest Close		on	Day	End 2017 to Date			
Dow Jones	24356.74		+(0.75	-1.47			
S&P 500	2736.61		+(0.86	+2.36			
FTSE 100	7603.22		+0	0.40	-1.10			
DJ Stoxx 50	3440.92		+(D.85	-1.80			
ISEQ	6969.09		-C	0.09	-0.98			
Nikkei	21788.14		+3	1.12	-4.29			

Today's Opening Rates							
		% Change					
		Day *	End 2017				
EUR/USD	1.1707	0.45	-2.41				
EUR/GBP	0.8848	0.37	-0.39				
GBP/USD	1.3228	0.05	-2.10				
GBP/EUR	1.1296	-0.37	0.40				
USD/JPY	110.68	0.28	-1.77				
EUR/JPY	129.6	0.74	-4.13				
* v Previous Day's European Open							
See Next Page fo	r More Rates	•••					







All rates quoted are indicative market rates

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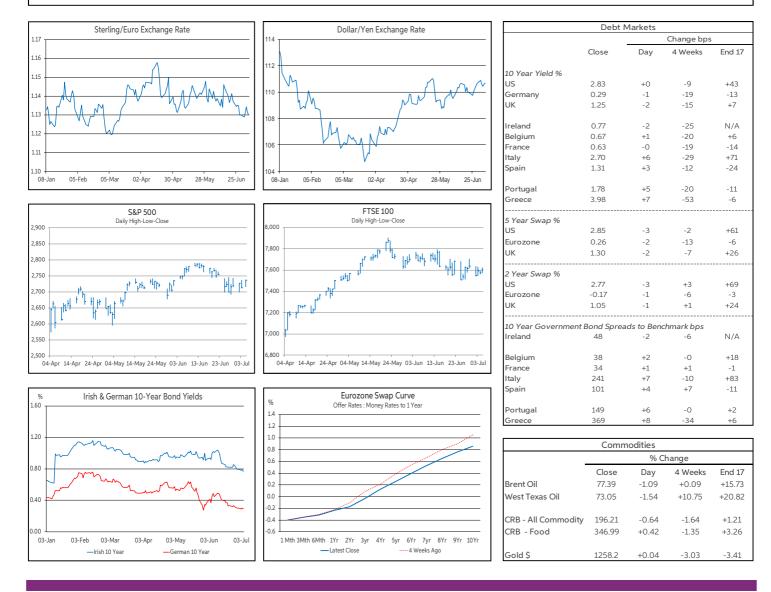
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Opening Levels

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Euro		Ste		Dollar	
EUR/GBP	0.8848	GBP/EUR	1.1296	USD/JPY	110.68
EUR/USD	1.1707	GBP/USD	1.3228	USD/CAE) 1.3129
EUR/JPY	129.6	GBP/CAD	1.7371	USD/CH	0.9924
EUR/SEK	10.2439	GBP/NZD	1.9412	USD/CN	r 6.6461
EUR/DKK	7.4507	GBP/JPY	146.41	USD/BRL	3.9324
EUR/NOK	9.4111	GBP/SEK	11.5707	USD/RUE	63.2136
EUR/CHF	1.1619	GBP/DKK	8.4195	USD/INR	68.855
EUR/AUD	1.58	GBP/NOK	10.6309		
EUR/HKD	9.1866	GBP/CHF	1.313	AUD/USE	0.7408
EUR/CAD	1.5371	GBP/AUD	1.7852	NZD/USE	0.6813



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