Morning Comment

AIB Treasury Economic Research Unit



Thursday 04 June 2020 07:14 am

Risk appetite continues to firm

There were limited moves on FX markets yesterday despite a positive risk backdrop. Sterling softened slightly but there was no standout reason for this and its main pairs remained well within their recent trading ranges. In level terms, this is reflected in EUR/GBP opening this morning near the 89.5p mark. At the same time, GBP/USD is in the lower half of the \$1.25-1.26 range. Meanwhile, EUR/USD has so far held above the \$1.12 level.

Elsewhere, equities made some further gains yesterday. Investors remain bullish about the possibility of a vigorous recovery in activity as economies emerge from lockdown. The main European indices gained 2.5-3.5%, while the S&P 500 was up 1.4%. The improvement in sentiment also saw bond yields move higher.

Yesterday's US ADP report for May, which showed a 2.8m fall in private payrolls (f'cast –9m), helped aid this optimism. The data, which align with the continuing jobless claims figures, suggest Friday's payroll report may be considerably better than expected.

Today, a key focus for markets will be the ECB's June policy meeting. No change to the depo rate is expected given that at its last two meetings the central bank has lowered the rate on TLTROs. However, the market does expect a sizeable expansion in the ECB's \in 750bn PEPP asset purchase program. Updated macro projections that account for the Covid crisis will also be released.

A potential increase in the bank's QE programme has been well signalled in advance by Governing Council members. However, today's meeting does still pose some downside risk to both the euro and Eurozone periphery debt if the ECB disappoints. Elsewhere, there is little out to impact either the dollar or sterling. **Conor Beakey, Economist, AIB**

Today's Opening FX Rates				
		% Change		
		Day *	End 2019	
EUR/USD	1.1213	0.09	0.03	
EUR/GBP	0.8941	0.45	5.76	
GBP/USD	1.2538	-0.35	-5.44	
GBP/EUR	1.1179	-0.45	-5.45	
USD/JPY	109.07	0.52	0.42	
EUR/JPY	122.32	0.63	0.40	
* v Previous Day's European Open				
See Next Page for More Rates				

Opening Interest Rates						
		Money Market		Swap Rates		5
	Base Rate	1-Mth	3-Mth	1-Yr	2-Yr	5-Yr
USD	0.125	0.17	0.33	0.29	0.28	0.41
EUR	0.00	-0.48	-0.33	-0.25	-0.29	-0.24
GBP	0.10	0.10	0.24	0.30	0.28	0.34

Euro/US Dollar Exchange Rate







All rates quoted are indicative market rates

FX Spot Karl Cooke Shane Gargan Enda Homan FX Options Mark Tuite

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Morning Comment John Fahey john.j.fahey@aib.ie

Equity Options Gary Luff

Opening Levels

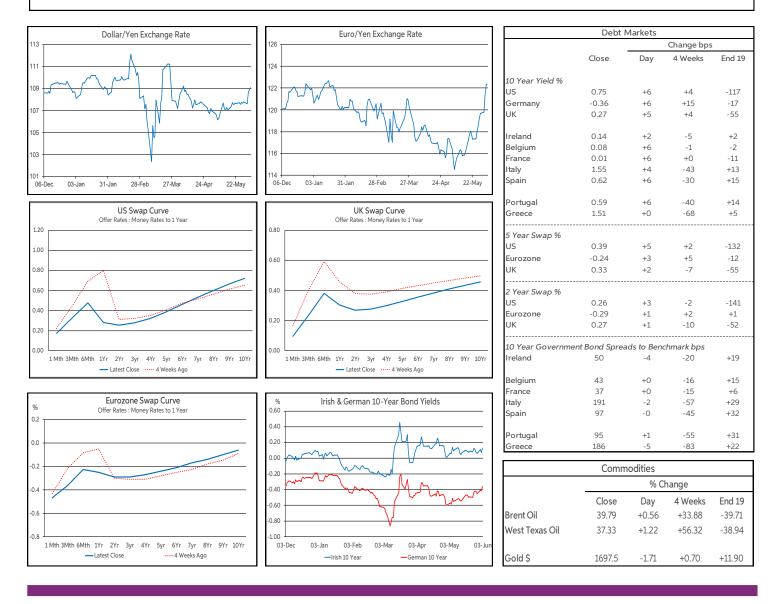
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Eur	0
EUR/GBP	0.8941
EUR/USD	1.1213
EUR/JPY	122.32
EUR/SEK	10.4426
EUR/DKK	7.4544
EUR/NOK	10.6376
EUR/CHF	1.0783
EUR/AUD	1.6237
EUR/HKD	8.6897
EUR/CAD	1.5153

Sterling				
1.1179				
1.2538				
1.6943				
1.9513				
136.75				
11.6733				
8.3334				
11.89				
1.2056				
1.8155				

Dollar				
USD/JPY	109.07			
USD/CAD	1.3511			
USD/CHF	0.9615			
USD/CNY	7.1238			
USD/BRL	5.0626			
USD/RUB	68.592			
USD/INR	75.5			
AUD/USD	0.6905			
NZD/USD	0.6423			
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