Morning Comment

AIB Treasury Economic Research Unit

Monday 30 March 2020 07:17 am

Markets still on an uncertain footing

Last week saw an improvement in risk markets. On Wall street, the S&P 500 managed to record three straight days of gains for the first time since mid-February, when it was at all time highs. Risk appetite was aided by extensive global policy stimulus measures incorporating both fiscal and monetary tools. However, the fragile nature to investor sentiment in the current environment of heightened global macro uncertainty was once again evident on Friday. All the major global equity indices ended the week with another down day. At the closing bell Friday night, the S&P 500 was down over 3% on the day.

On the currency front, one of the standout features of the action over recent days has been the volatile trading conditions for sterling. This has been reflected in EUR/GBP trading in a wide 89-94p range last week and, similarly, GBP/USD operating in an expansive \$1.14-1.24 range. The trajectory for sterling over the course of the week, though, was for it to recover some lost ground.

At the same time, the dollar adopted a softer tone. This coincided with the period of improvement in risk markets, which reduced the demand for safe havens such as the dollar. In level terms, EUR/ USD starts the week up above the \$1.10 mark. Meanwhile, EUR/ GBP is trading below the 90p threshold. Elsewhere, cable is changing hands up at the \$1.24 handle.

For the week ahead, investor sentiment will likely remain very sensitive to developments in relation to the coronavirus. We also get more data releases showing the severe impact the coronavirus is having on economic activity. In this regard, the UK has become the first major economy to suffer a ratings downgrade (from AA to AA- by Fitch on Friday night) arising from the coronavirus. John Fahey, Senior Economist, AIB

Today's Opening FX Rates					
		% Change			
		Day *	End 2019		
EUR/USD	1.1084	0.11	-1.12		
EUR/GBP	0.8928	-1.03	5.61		
GBP/USD	1.2413	1.20	-6.38		
GBP/EUR	1.1195	1.04	-5.31		
USD/JPY	107.67	-0.72	-0.87		
EUR/JPY	119.35	-0.59	-2.04		
* v Previous Day's E	uropean Open				
See Next Page for M	lore Rates				

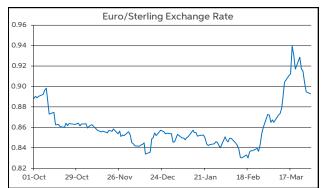
Opening Interest Rates						
			Short Term	ı	Long	Term
	Base Rate	1-Mth	3-Mth	12-Mth	2-Yr	5-Yr
USD	0.125	0.99	1.45	0.97	0.52	0.52
EUR	0.00	-0.44	-0.35	-0.15	-0.31	-0.23
GBP	0.10	0.25	0.56	0.84	0.52	0.55

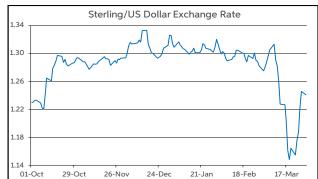
All rates quoted are indicative market rates

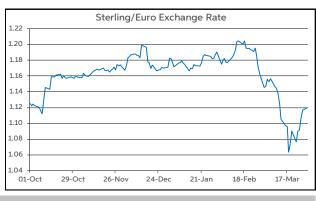
FX Spot Karl Cooke Shane Gargan Enda Homan

FX Options Mark Tuite

Euro/US Dollar Exchange Rate 1.16 1.14 1.12 1.10 1.08 1.06 01-Oct 17-Mar 29-Oct 26-Nov 24-Dec 21-Jan 18-Feb







See Next Page For More Rates & Charts

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Opening Levels

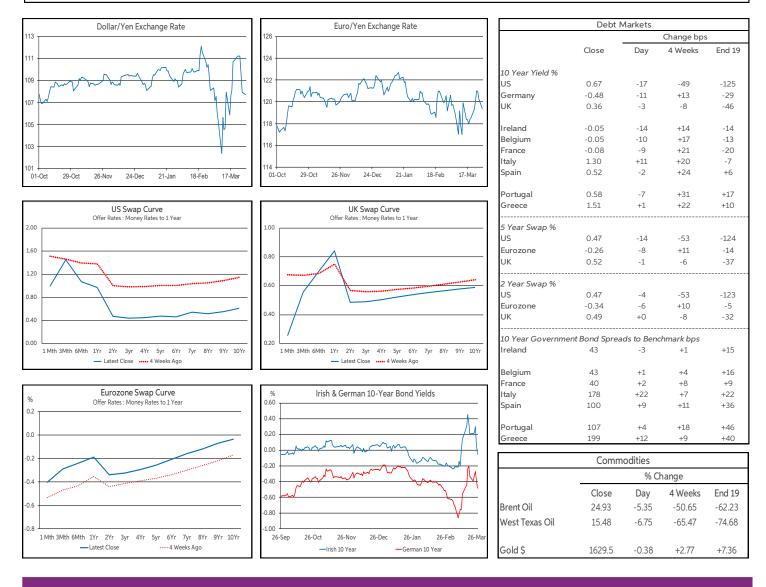
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107.67 1.404 0.9549 7.0919 5.1002 79.449 75.37

0.6151

Dollar	ng	Sterli	0	Eur
USD/JPY	1.1195	GBP/EUR	0.8928	EUR/GBP
USD/CAD	1.2413	GBP/USD	1.1084	EUR/USD
USD/CHF	1.7429	GBP/CAD	119.35	EUR/JPY
USD/CNY	2.0594	GBP/NZD	11.007	EUR/SEK
USD/BRL	133.65	GBP/JPY	7.4635	EUR/DKK
USD/RUB	12.3226	GBP/SEK	11.6326	EUR/NOK
USD/INR	8.3559	GBP/DKK	1.0586	EUR/CHF
	13.0392	GBP/NOK	1.8011	EUR/AUD
AUD/USD	1.1854	GBP/CHF	8.5935	EUR/HKD
NZD/USD	2.0169	GBP/AUD	1.5563	EUR/CAD



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