# **Morning Comment**

AIB Treasury Economic Research Unit



Tuesday 07 May 2019 07:20 am

### Quiet macro diary this week

Currency markets started the week in a relatively guiet manner yesterday. This was in part due to a market holiday in the UK, as well as a very sparse daily macro diary. Meantime, while concerns over a possible escalation of US/China trade tensions impacted equity markets, there was no noticeable spillover onto currency markets. As a result the main FX pairs open this morning broadly similar to 24 hours earlier. EUR/USD has edged up to the \$1.12 level, with EUR/GBP remaining below the 86p threshold. Elsewhere, GBP/USD is changing hands just above the \$1.31 mark.

Looking ahead to the remainder of this week, the global macro agenda remains on the guiet side. The Eurozone schedule is especially sparse with industrial production data out of the region's three largest economies (Germany, France and Italy) the only data of any note. All of which suggests there is little from the Eurozone calendar to generate much in the way of reaction from the euro.

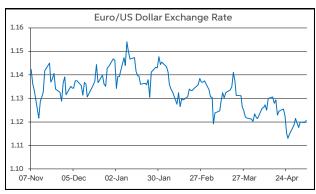
The UK schedule will garner more attention with the focus on the first estimate of Q1 GDP. Last week, the BoE noted that the economy appeared to perform better than previously envisaged in Q1, boosted by companies stockbuilding ahead of the original Brexit deadline. The consensus is for guarterly growth of 0.5% (0.2% in Q4'18). However, the data may also highlight the drag from Brexit uncertainty, with business investment expected to fall for a fifth straight quarter. Overall though, a solid headline GDP growth rate could at the margin offer some support to sterling.

Meantime, similar to the Eurozone, the US weekly calendar is rather dull. The only noteworthy release being CPI inflation for April. However, unless the data springs a major surprise, the impact on the dollar is likely to be negligible.

#### John Fahey, Senior Economist, AIB

Opening Interest Rates						
		Short Term			Long Term	
	Base Rate	1-Mth	3-Mth	12-Mth	2-Yr	5-Yr
USD	2.375	2.47	2.56	2.75	2.39	2.32
EUR	0.00	-0.37	-0.31	-0.11	-0.20	0.04
GBP	0.75	0.73	0.81	1.08	1.07	1.24
Equity Indices						
		% Changes				
	Late	Latest Close		Day	End 201	8 to Date
Dow Jones	; 26	26438.48		0.25	+13	3.34
S&P 500	29	2932.47		).45	+10	6.98
FTSE 100	73	7380.64		0.00	+9.70	
DJ Stoxx 50	<b>)</b> 34	3462.95		1.13	+15.38	
ISEQ	64	6462.12		0.56	+17.93	
Nikkei	21	21923.72		1.51	+9.54	

Т	Today's Opening Rates				
		% Change			
		Day *	End 2018		
EUR/USD	1.1207	0.15	-2.28		
EUR/GBP	0.8544	0.19	-4.90		
GBP/USD	1.3114	-0.05	2.80		
GBP/EUR	1.1699	-0.19	5.15		
USD/JPY	110.76	-0.06	1.10		
EUR/JPY	124.15	0.10	-1.24		
* v Previous Day's European Open					
See Next Page for More Rates		• • •			







#### All rates quoted are indicative market rates



Mark Tuite Lenny Hogan

See Next Page For More Rates & Charts

Reuters AIBI Phone

00353-1-7724018

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

## **Opening Levels**

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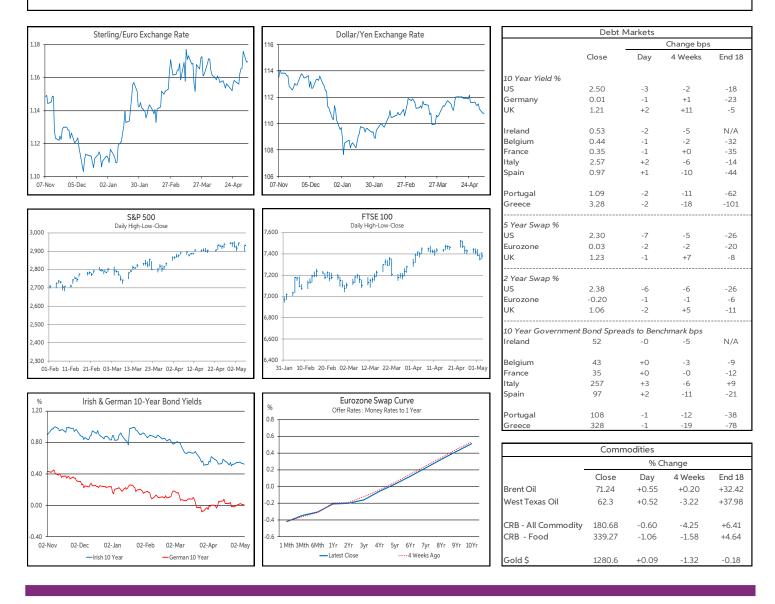


Euro	
EUR/GBP	0.8544
EUR/USD	1.1207
EUR/JPY	124.15
EUR/SEK	10.706
EUR/DKK	7.4656
EUR/NOK	9.7608
EUR/CHF	1.1394
EUR/AUD	1.5923
EUR/HKD	8.7942
EUR/CAD	1.5045

Sterling		
GBP/EUR	1.1699	
GBP/USD	1.3114	
GBP/CAD	1.7604	
GBP/NZD	1.9808	
GBP/JPY	145.25	
GBP/SEK	12.5281	
GBP/DKK	8.735	
GBP/NOK	11.4221	
GBP/CHF	1.3333	
GBP/AUD	1.8631	

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Dollar			
USD/JPY	110.76		
USD/CAD	1.3422		
USD/CHF	1.0165		
USD/CNY	6.7715		
USD/BRL	3.9683		
USD/RUB	65.2688		
USD/INR	69.336		
AUD/USD	0.7038		
NZD/USD	0.6618		



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