Morning Comment

AIB Treasury Economic Research Unit



Thursday 16 November 2017 07:29 am

Uneventful 24 hours on the currency front

Investor sentiment remained in cautious mode yesterday. The ongoing uncertainty surrounding US tax reforms, as well as further falls in oil prices, weighed on risk appetite. The restrained tone was evident on equity markets. The Euro Stoxx 50 finished the European session with a modest 0.3% fall. Meantime, at the closing bell on Wall Street last night, the S&P 500 was flat on the day.

Data-wise, there was a busy flow of releases yesterday. In the UK, we got a raft of labour market updates with a mixed picture being painted by the data. Employment unexpectedly fell in Q3 (by –14k), while headline wage growth remained muted at 2.2% y/y in the quarter (2.1% in Q2). On the plus side, the unemployment rate held at its 42-year low of 4.3%. In the US, retail sales rose unexpectedly in October, registering a 0.2% monthly increase (vs. 0% f'cast). Meanwhile, core CPI inflation for October printed slightly ahead of expectations with a 1.8% reading.

From a currency perspective, the packed data calendar did not have any lasting impact on the main pairs. While sterling briefly traded lower in the immediate aftermath of the labour market data, reflected in EUR/GBP testing up at 90p, the pair subsequently edged back to near where it started the day, close to 89.5p. Likewise, the EUR/USD cross had a short-lived spell up at \$1.185 before trading back down towards the \$1.18 mark. Elsewhere, cable has continued to trade within the \$1.31-1.32 band over the past 24 hours.

Ahead today, the macro calendar has a quieter agenda. The main highlights being UK retail sales (Oct) and US industrial production (Oct). A speech by BoE Governor Carney provides some event risk for sterling. Overall though, today's diary may not have much directional impact/influence on the main FX pairs.

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	1.125	1.27	1.42	1.89	1.86	2.09
EUR	0.00	-0.37	-0.33	-0.19	-0.18	0.21
GBP	0.50	0.50	0.53	0.78	0.83	1.07

Equity Indices				
		% Changes		
	Latest Close	on Day	End 2016 to Date	
Dow Jones	23409.47	+0.00	+18.45	
S&P 500	2578.87	+0.00	+15.19	
FTSE 100	7372.61	-0.56	+3.22	
DJ Stoxx 50	3545.72	-0.30	+7.76	
ISEQ	6724.27	-0.50	+3.18	
Nikkei	22351.12	+1.47	+16.93	

Today's Opening Rates % Change Day * End 2016 **EUR/USD** 1.1783 -0.03 12 08 EUR/GBP 0.8961 -0.10 5 20 GBP/USD 1.3148 0.08 6.58 GBP/EUR 1.1155 0.10 -4.94 USD/JPY 113.17 0.00 -3.17 **EUR/JPY** 133 38 -O O1 8 32 v Previous Day's European Open See Next Page for More Rates \triangleright







All rates quoted are indicative market rates

See Next Page For More Rates & Charts

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Opening Levels



Euro	
EUR/GBP	0.8961
EUR/USD	1.1783
EUR/JPY	133.38
EUR/SEK	9.9285
EUR/DKK	7.4425
EUR/NOK	9.7011
EUR/CHF	1.1667
EUR/AUD	1.5531
EUR/HKD	9.2007
EUR/CAD	1.5054

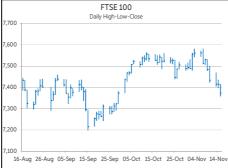
Sterling			
GBP/EUR	1.1155		
GBP/USD	1.3148		
GBP/CAD	1.6795		
GBP/NZD	1.9183		
GBP/JPY	148.8		
GBP/SEK	11.0775		
GBP/DKK	8.3016		
GBP/NOK	10.8239		
GBP/CHF	1.3018		
GBP/AUD	1.7323		

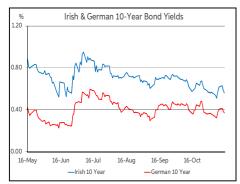
Dollar				
USD/JPY	113.17			
USD/CAD	1.2771			
USD/CHF	0.99			
USD/CNY	6.6333			
USD/BRL	3.3132			
USD/RUB	60.0405			
USD/INR	65.315			
AUD/USD	0.7587			
NZD/USD	0.6852			













	Debt	Markets			
		Change bps			
	Close	Day	4 Weeks	End 16	
10 Year Yield %					
US	2.37	-3	+3	-7	
Germany	0.37	-2	-2	+17	
UK	1.29	-3	-3	+5	
Ireland	0.56	-3	-3	-19	
Belgium	0.58	-2	-7	+7	
France	0.73	-2	-7	+6	
Italy	1.83	+1	-21	+2	
Spain	1.53	+1	-8	+17	
Portugal	1.95	+1	-36	-177	
Greece	5.03	+4	-42	-184	
US Eurozone UK	2.06 0.18 1.06	-6 -4 -3	+0 -5 -2	+11 +10 +18	
	1.06	-3		+18	
2 Year Swap %					
US	1.84	-4	+4	+40	
Eurozone	-0.21	-3	-4	-5	
UK	0.81	-2	-2	+21	
10 Year Governme	ent Bond Spre	ads to Ben	chmark bps		
Ireland	19	-1	-1	-36	
Belgium	21	+0	-5	-10	
France	36	+0	-4	-11	
Italy	146	+3	-18	-15	
Spain	116	+4	-6	-1	
Portugal	158	+3	-34	-195	
Greece	466	+6	-39	-202	

Commodities				
_	% Change			
	Close	Day	4 Weeks	End 16
Brent Oil	62.21	-1.50	+6.98	+9.49
West Texas Oil	55.67	-1.94	+6.95	+3.57
CRB - All Commodity	189.06	-1.25	+2.75	-1.79
CRB - Food	346.64	-0.87	+0.80	+2.33
Gold \$	1279.1	-0.13	-0.19	+11.01

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