Morning Comment

AIB Treasury Economic Research Unit



Friday 02 November 2018 07:20 am

Sterling starts the month on the front foot.

Sterling had a strong start to the month yesterday. The currency managed to build on its upward momentum from the previous day. Positive headlines in relation to Brexit (unconfirmed reports regarding progress on a UK/EU financial services deal) coincided with the firmer tone to sterling. Meanwhile, a hawkish tone from the BoE's November policy meeting/Inflation report also provided a supportive backdrop. As a result, the downside surprise from the manufacturing PMI for October got minimal attention from a currency viewpoint.

Elsewhere yesterday on the datafront, the only other release of any note was in the US, with the manufacturing ISM for October out. In contrast to the recent US macro trend, the survey missed to the downside of expectations. Although, it remained at a level consistent with solid growth for the sector. The data was somewhat unhelpful to the dollar.

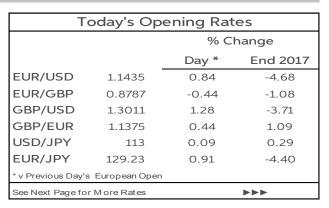
In level terms, the firmer tone to sterling is reflected in EUR/GBP opening this morning below the 88p mark and GBP/USD trading up at the \$1.30 level. Meanwhile, the EUR/USD pair was steadily moving higher yesterday and this has continued overnight amid reports of an easing in trade tensions between the US and China. The pair has regained the \$1.14 threshold.

Ahead today, the focus from a data perspective will be on the US with the payrolls figures for October due along with a raft of other labour market updates (unemployment rate, earnings). Overall, the data is expected to provide further evidence that the US labour market, and in turn the economy, continues to perform strongly. Given that this is expected, unless there is some surprise results the impact on the dollar may be limited. Meantime, sterling remains reactive to Brexit related headlines.

John Fahey, Senior Economist, AIB

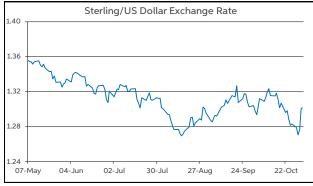
Opening Interest Rates						
		Short Term			Long Term	
	Base Rate	1-Mth	3-Mth	12-Mth	2-Yr	5-Yr
USD	2.125	2.31	2.58	3.10	3.08	3.13
EUR	0.00	-0.37	-0.32	-0.15	-0.10	0.38
GBP	0.75	0.73	0.83	1.09	1.16	1.40

Equity Indices					
		% Changes			
	Latest Close	on Day	End 2017 to Date		
Dow Jones	25380.74	+1.06	+2.68		
S&P 500	2740.37	+1.06	+2.50		
FTSE 100	7114.66	-0.19	-7.45		
DJ Stoxx 50	3204.21	+0.21	-8.55		
ISEQ	6156.39	+0.14	-12.53		
Nikkei	22243.66	+2.56	-2.29		









All rates quoted are indicative market rates

See Next Page For More Rates & Charts

FX Spot Karl Cooke Shane Gargan Enda Homan Equity Options Gary Luff FX Options FX Options FX Options FX Options Mark Tuite Reuters AlBI Morning Comment John Fahey john.j.fahey@aib.ie

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Opening Levels

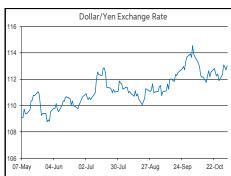


Euro)
EUR/GBP	0.8787
EUR/USD	1.1435
EUR/JPY	129.23
EUR/SEK	10.2975
EUR/DKK	7.4598
EUR/NOK	9.5083
EUR/CHF	1.1448
EUR/AUD	1.5795
EUR/HKD	8.9606
EUR/CAD	1.4932

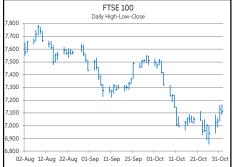
Sterling			
GBP/EUR	1.1375		
GBP/USD	1.3011		
GBP/CAD	1.699		
GBP/NZD	1.9498		
GBP/JPY	147.04		
GBP/SEK	11.7114		
GBP/DKK	8.4874		
GBP/NOK	10.8184		
GBP/CHF	1.3022		
GBP/AUD	1.7967		

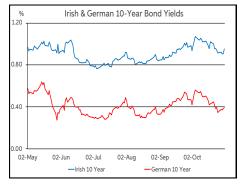
Dollar				
USD/JPY	113			
USD/CAD	1.3057			
USD/CHF	1.0009			
USD/CNY	6.89			
USD/BRL	3.6966			
USD/RUB	65.5361			
USD/INR	72.6575			
AUD/USD	0.724			
NZD/USD	0.667			













	Debt	Markets		
			Change bps	;
	Close	Day	4 Weeks	End 17
10 Year Yield %				
US	3.13	-2	-5	+73
Germany	0.39	+1	-14	-3
UK	1.44	+1	-23	+26
Ireland	0.95	+5	-8	N/A
Belgium	0.78	+2	-11	+17
France	0.75	+1	-11	-2
Italy	3.36	-4	+4	+137
Spain	1.53	+1	-2	-1
Portugal	1.86	+1	-4	-3
Greece	4.18	-2	-26	+13
US Eurozone UK	3.09 0.35 1.39	-1 -0 +0	-6 -9 -12	+85 +4 +36
2 Year Swap % US	3.02	-2	+0	+94
Eurozone	-0.12	-2 -1	-3	+2
UK	1.15	+2	-3	+35
 10 Year Governme	ent Bond Spre	ads to Ben	chmark bps	
Ireland	56	+4	+6	N/A
Belgium	39	+1	+3	+19
France	36	-1	+3	+0
Italy	297	-5	+18	+140
Spain	114	-1	+12	+2
Portugal	147	+0	+10	-O
Greece	378	-3	-12	+16

Commodities				
_	% Change			
	Close	Day	4 Weeks	End 17
Brent Oil	72.89	-3.42	-13.82	+9.00
West Texas Oil	63.67	-2.51	-14.47	+5.31
CRB - All Commodity	191.64	+0.35	-3.59	-1.15
CRB - Food	338.67	+2.27	+0.21	+0.78
Gold \$	1233.7	+1.54	+2.80	-5.29

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