Morning Comment

AIB Treasury Economic Research Unit



Tuesday 20 November 2018 07:30 am

Dollar continues to hold softer tone

A very quiet macro calendar yesterday meant there was little on the data front to be of interest or provide direction to the main currency pairs. Indeed, the only release of note on either side of the Atlantic was US homebuilder sentiment for November. The survey surprised strongly to the downside of forecasts, although it generated limited reaction from the dollar.

However, the dollar did continue to hold a softer tone, which has been in place over the last week. This has coincided with some softening in US rate hike expectations, which in turn has seen US treasury yields move lower. This is despite US economic data remaining strong. However, there is increased concerns over the risks facing the global economy. These risks have also been highlighted by a number of Fed speakers recently.

Elsewhere, it was a quiet day for Brexit newsflow. The widely speculated vote of no confidence within the Conservative party on the leadership of Theresa May has so far failed to materialise. Overall then, sterling pairs tended to trade in tight ranges.

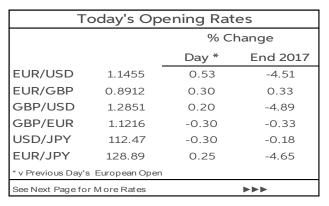
So as trading gets underway this morning, EUR/GBP is changing hands in a very tight range at the 89p level. Meantime, the aforementioned softer tone in the dollar has seen EUR/USD continue to edge higher. The pair has managed to trade up to the midpoint of the \$1.14-1.15 band. This represents a gain of around 2% compared to a week ago.

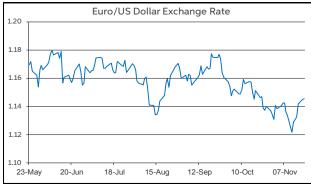
Ahead today, the macro data schedule remains sparse from a dollar, euro and sterling viewpoint. An appearance by BoE Governor Carney before the Treasury Select Committee poses some headline risk for sterling. At the same time, the currency remains sensitive to Brexit developments.

John Fahey, Senior Economist, AIB

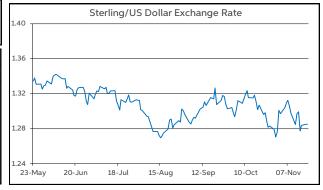
Opening Interest Rates						
		Short Term			Long Term	
	Base Rate	1-Mth	3-Mth	12-Mth	2-Yr	5-Yr
USD	2.125	2.30	2.65	3.11	2.98	2.99
EUR	0.00	-0.37	-0.32	-0.15	-0.12	0.33
GBP	0.75	0.73	0.89	1.14	1.14	1.35

Equity Indices				
		% Changes		
	Latest Close	on Day	End 2017 to Date	
Dow Jones	25017.44	-1.56	+1.21	
S&P 500	2690.73	-1.66	+0.64	
FTSE 100	7000.89	-0.19	-8.93	
DJ Stoxx 50	3160.33	-0.64	-9.81	
ISEQ	5900.09	-1.39	-16.17	
Nikkei	21583.12	-1.09	-5.19	









All rates quoted are indicative market rates

See Next Page For More Rates & Charts

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Opening Levels



Euro	
EUR/GBP	0.8912
EUR/USD	1.1455
EUR/JPY	128.89
EUR/SEK	10.315
EUR/DKK	7.4625
EUR/NOK	9.7032
EUR/CHF	1.137
EUR/AUD	1.5724
EUR/HKD	8.971
EUR/CAD	1.508

Sterling			
GBP/EUR	1.1216		
GBP/USD	1.2851		
GBP/CAD	1.6917		
GBP/NZD	1.874		
GBP/JPY	144.54		
GBP/SEK	11.5715		
GBP/DKK	8.3701		
GBP/NOK	10.8856		
GBP/CHF	1.2753		
GBP/AUD	1.7634		

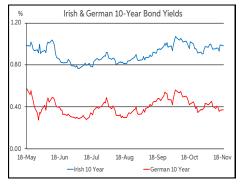
Dollar				
USD/JPY	112.47			
USD/CAD	1.316			
USD/CHF	0.9921			
USD/CNY	6.9404			
USD/BRL	3.7558			
USD/RUB	65.6323			
USD/INR	71.405			
AUD/USD	0.7285			
NZD/USD	0.6855			

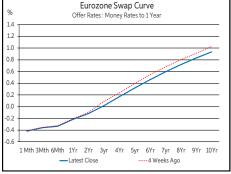












	Debt	Markets			
		Change bps			
	Close	Day	4 Weeks	End 17	
10 Year Yield %					
US	3.06	-O	-14	+66	
Germany	0.37	+1	-8	-5	
UK	1.37	-4	-15	+19	
Ireland	0.98	-1	-2	N/A	
Belgium	0.83	+3	-4	+22	
France	0.78	+2	-4	+0	
Italy	3.58	+10	+13	+158	
Spain	1.64	+2	-4	+10	
Portugal	1.97	+1	-2	+7	
Greece	4.50	-1	+23	+46	
US Eurozone UK	2.97 0.32 1.33	-4 -1 -4	-21 -8 -9	+73 +0 +29	
2 Year Swap %					
US -	2.94	-4	-16	+85	
Eurozone	-0.12	+0	-2	+2	
UK	1.13	-2	+0	+33	
10 Year Governme					
Ireland	61	-1	+6	N/A	
Belgium	46	+2	+3	+26	
France	40	+1	+3	+5	
Italy	320	+10	+20	+163	
Spain	126	+1	+4	+14	
Portugal	159	+1	+5	+12	
Greece	412	-2	+31	+50	

Commodities				
_	% Change			
	Close	Day	4 Weeks	End 17
Brent Oil	66.79	+0.04	-16.33	-0.12
West Texas Oil	57.16	+1.19	-17.46	-5.46
CRB - All Commodity	188.76	+0.78	-4.30	-2.63
CRB - Food	333.4	+0.86	-0.33	-0.79
Gold \$	1224.1	+0.21	+0.11	-6.03

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