Morning Comment

AIB Treasury Economic Research Unit



Thursday 08 November 2018 07:23 am

Muted FX action

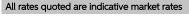
The action on currency markets yesterday was muted and confined to tight ranges. This was in part due to a lack of any significant macro releases to provide direction to the main FX pairs. Indeed, the only data of any note yesterday were Eurozone retail sales (slight miss versus forecast) and UK house prices (beat expectations). Meantime, the US data calendar was even less interesting.

Elsewhere, in terms of the aftermath of the US midterm elections, the dollar had come into the morning session under some modest downward pressure. However, over the last 24 hours the currency has not experienced any sustained further downward momentum and in fact has edged slightly higher. The implications of a divided Congress did not weigh on investor sentiment (no major surprises, election outcome was in line with expectations). At the close last night, the S&P 500 was up 2% on the day.

As trading gets underway this morning on the currency front, the main pairs start at levels broadly similar to yesterday's open. After briefly testing up near to the \$1.15 level yesterday, EUR/USD is trading back down in the lower half of the \$1.14-1.15 band. Meantime, GBP/USD continues to change hands in a narrow range, just above the \$1.31 threshold. In terms of EUR/GBP, the pair remains pinned down near the 87p mark.

Today, the main macro event is the conclusion of the Fed meeting (after close in Europe). No changes are expected, as the Fed has guided that it will hike again in December. With only the statement due for release, the scope for dollar moving headlines are limited. This, combined with a very dull data schedule, means that currency markets could be in for another day of subdued action. Although, sterling remains sensitive to Brexit newsflow. John Fahey, Senior Economist, AIB

Opening Interest Rates Short Term Lona Term Base Rate 1-Mth 3-Mth 12-Mth 5-Yr 2-Yr USD 2.125 2.32 2.60 3.13 3.14 3.19 EUR 0.00 -0.37 -0.32 -0.15 -0.10 0.38 GBP 0.75 0.73 0.85 1.14 1.21 1.47 **Equity Indices** % Changes Latest Close on Day End 2017 to Date Dow Jones 26180 3 +2.13+5 91 S&P 500 2813.89 +2.12+5 25 **FTSE 100** 7117.28 +1.09-7 42 DJ Stoxx 50 3246.16 +1.21-7.36 ISEQ 6254.77 +1.93-11.13 Nikkei 22486.92 +1 82 -1 22

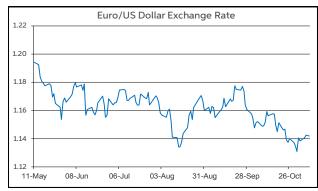


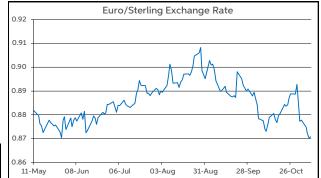


FX Options Mark Tuite Lenny Hogan

Equity Options Gary Luff

Today's Opening Rates				
		% Change		
		Day *	End 2017	
EUR/USD	1.142	-0.26	-4.80	
EUR/GBP	0.8708	-0.16	-1.97	
GBP/USD	1.3112	-0.11	-2.96	
GBP/EUR	1.148	0.16	2.01	
USD/JPY	113.69	0.49	0.91	
EUR/JPY	129.84	0.22	-3.95	
* v Previous Day's European Open				
See Next Page for More Rates			\blacktriangleright	







See Next Page For More Rates & Charts

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Morning Comment John Fahey

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Opening Levels

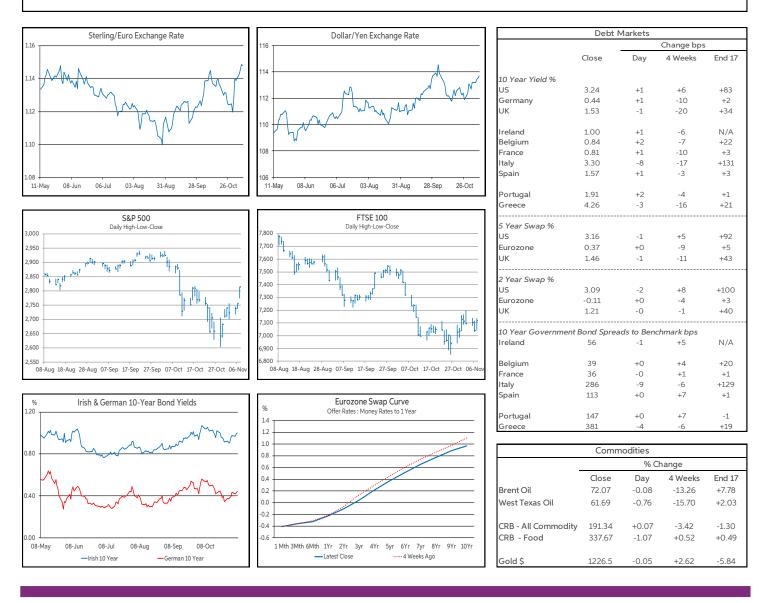
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Euro			
EUR/GBP	0.8708		
EUR/USD	1.142		
EUR/JPY	129.84		
EUR/SEK	10.299		
EUR/DKK	7.4592		
EUR/NOK	9.5297		
EUR/CHF	1.1447		
EUR/AUD	1.5672		
EUR/HKD	8.9427		
EUR/CAD	1.4973		

Sterling				
GBP/EUR	1.148			
GBP/USD	1.3112			
GBP/CAD	1.7191			
GBP/NZD	1.9314			
GBP/JPY	149.07			
GBP/SEK	11.8238			
GBP/DKK	8.565			
GBP/NOK	10.9446			
GBP/CHF	1.3145			
GBP/AUD	1.7992			

Dollar				
USD/JPY	113.69			
USD/CAD	1.311			
USD/CHF	1.0023			
USD/CNY	6.9273			
USD/BRL	3.7317			
USD/RUB	66.195			
USD/INR	72.4			
AUD/USD	0.7284			
NZD/USD	0.6787			



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