Morning Comment

AIB Treasury Economic Research Unit



Friday 16 October 2020 07:20 am

Risk-off returns to markets

The risk-off tone returned to markets yesterday as concerns over growing Covid-19 numbers across Europe led to a host of nations introducing enhanced restrictions. Equity markets moved lower, bond yields continued to fall, credit spreads widened and the price of oil fell. On currency markets, safe-haven currencies such as the yen and dollar outperformed.

Yesterday marked the beginning of the two-day EU summit in Brussels. As expected the EU agreed to extend trade-talks, and to step-up no-deal preparations. A host of EU leaders stated the blocs desire for a deal, while also drawing attention to the fact that key issues still remain before a deal can be agreed. EU Chief negotiator Barnier echoed these messages, while also stating that the EU hopes to trigger the final stage of talks next week.

However, his counterpart for the UK, Lord Frost stated he was disappointed at the messages emanating from the summit. PM Johnson is expected to outline his position on the future of trade negotiations later today. Sterling has been somewhat softer over the past 24 hours amid the deadlock.

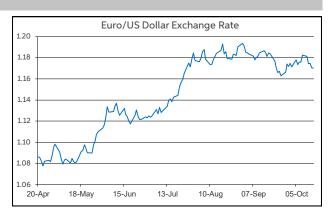
In level terms, the stronger dollar tone is reflected in EUR/USD opening near the \$1.17 handle. Meanwhile, EUR/GBP is changing hands in the top half of 90-91p. Cable (GBP/USD) is operating below the \$1.29 mark .

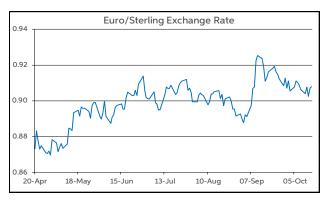
Today, US retail sales and industrial production are the main data releases. However, barring any surprises neither release is likely to impact the dollar. The conclusion of the Summit and PM Johnson's statement due later today may pose some event risk for sterling, although trade-talk's are expected to continue.

Daniel Noonan, Economist, AIB

Today's Opening FX Rates					
		% Change			
		Day *	End 2019		
EUR/USD	1.1702	-0.43	4.39		
EUR/GBP	0.9079	0.60	7.39		
GBP/USD	1.2886	-1.01	-2.81		
GBP/EUR	1.101	-0.59	-6.88		
USD/JPY	105.26	-0.01	-3.08		
EUR/JPY	123.18	-0.42	1.11		
* v Previous Day's European Open					

Opening Interest Rates						
		Market	Swap Rates			
	Base Rate	1-Mth	3-Mth	1-Yr	2-Yr	5-Yr
USD	0.125	0.15	0.23	0.19	0.25	0.40
EUR	0.00	-0.54	-0.51	-0.51	-0.51	-0.48
GBP	0.10	0.04	0.05	0.05	0.06	0.18









All rates quoted are indicative market rates

See Next Page for More Rates

See Next Page For More Rates & Charts

FX Spot	Karl Cooke Shane Gargan Enda Homan	FX Options	Mark Tuite	Reuters Phone	AIBG.I 00353-1-7724018	Morning Comment	John Fahey john.j.fahey@aib.ie
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Opening Levels



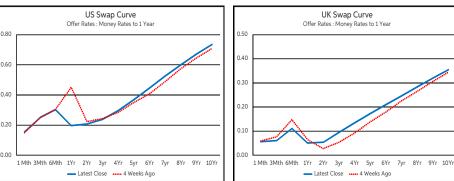
Euro	
EUR/GBP	0.908
EUR/USD	1.17
EUR/JPY	123.17
EUR/SEK	10.3964
EUR/DKK	7.4426
EUR/NOK	10.9815
EUR/CHF	1.0709
EUR/AUD	1.6541
EUR/HKD	9.0665
EUR/CAD	1.5483

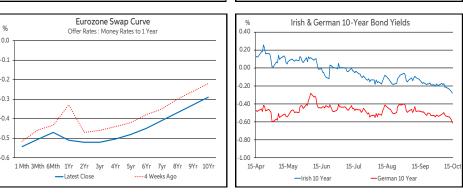
Sterling				
GBP/EUR	1.1009			
GBP/USD	1.2884			
GBP/CAD	1.7049			
GBP/NZD	1.9554			
GBP/JPY	135.63			
GBP/SEK	11.4493			
GBP/DKK	8.1946			
GBP/NOK	12.0847			
GBP/CHF	1.179			
GBP/AUD	1.8211			

Dollar				
USD/JPY	105.27			
USD/CAD	1.3233			
USD/CHF	0.9151			
USD/CNY	6.7214			
USD/BRL	5.6124			
USD/RUB	78.0441			
USD/INR	73.362			
AUD/USD	0.7073			
NZD/USD	0.6587			









Debt Markets						
		Change bps				
	Close	Day	4 Weeks	End 19		
10 Year Yield %						
US	0.74	+1	+5	-118		
Germany	-0.61	-4	-12	-42		
UK	0.18	-4	-1	-64		
Ireland	-0.25	-3	-12	-37		
Belgium	-0.37	-2	-11	-47		
France	-0.33	-3	-10	-45		
Italy	0.70	+4	-26	-73		
Spain	0.15	+1	-12	-32		
Portugal	0.16	+2	-13	-29		
Greece	0.84	+7	-23	-62		
5 Year Swap %						
US	0.37	-0	+6	-134		
Eurozone	-0.48	-1	-5	-36		
UK	0.17	-2	+4	-70		
2 Year Swap %						
US	0.21	-2	+1	-145		
Eurozone	-0.52	+0	-4	-22		
UK	0.05	-1	+4	-74		
10 Year Government Bond Spreads to Benchmark bps						
Ireland	36	+1	+0	+6		
Belgium	24	+1	+1	-4		
France	28	+1	+2	-3		
Italy	131	+7	-14	-31		
Spain	76	+5	+0	+11		
Portugal	77	+5	-2	+13		
Greece	145	+10	-11	-20		

Commodities								
		% Change						
	Close	Close Day 4 Weeks End 19						
Brent Oil	43.16	-0.37	-0.32	-34.61				
West Texas Oil	40.84	-0.05	-0.37	-33.20				
Gold \$	1907.8	+0.36	-1.79	+25.76				

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