Morning Comment

AIB Treasury Economic Research Unit



Tuesday 17 October 2017 07:30 am

Dollar slightly firmer

There was a generally lacklustre tone on financial markets as the week got underway yesterday. This likely reflects the quiet data/ events schedule over the last 24 hours. Not surprisingly then, the main equity indices were broadly unchanged yesterday on both sides of the Atlantic.

The tone on currency markets was similarly subdued, with the main FX pairs confined to narrow ranges for most of the day. Although, the dollar has made some gains in overnight trading. The currency was aided by a joint statement from President Trump and Senate Leader McConnell that they wanted a tax bill passed through congress "by the end of the year".

In level terms, EUR/USD has slipped to around the mid-point of the \$1.17-1.18 band. Cable (GBP/USD) is changing hands in the lower half of the \$1.32-1.33 range. Meantime, the EUR/GBP pair is unchanged compared to 24 hours previous, trading just below 89p.

Turning to the day ahead, there will be plenty to interest sterling watchers. UK CPI inflation is forecast to have picked up to 3% in September. This is the peak of the BoE's most recent forecasts. A pick-up in price pressures today would likely reinforce the MPC's line that rates could be hiked sooner rather than later, helping to provide some support to sterling. However, BoE Governor Carney is due before the Treasury Select Committee today, which poses some headline risk for the UK currency.

The US calendar features the main data release of the week there, industrial production for September. A relatively modest 0.3% increase is anticipated. This suggests that growth in the sector could be broadly flat in Q3, following on from Q2's strong 1.2% rise. Overall, dollar reaction to the data could be relatively muted.

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Opening Interest Rates						
		Short Term			Long Term	
	Base Rate	1-Mth	3-Mth	12-Mth	2-Yr	5-Yr
USD	1.125	1.24	1.35	1.81	1.81	2.04
EUR	0.00	-0.37	-0.33	-0.18	-0.18	0.20
GBP	0.25	0.30	0.38	0.75	0.85	1.09

Equity Indices				
		% Changes		
	Latest Close	on Day	End 2016 to Date	
Dow Jones	22956.96	+0.37	+16.16	
S&P 500	2557.64	+0.18	+14.24	
FTSE 100	7526.97	-0.11	+5.38	
DJ Stoxx 50	3606.27	+0.05	+9.60	
ISEQ	6813.52	-0.35	+4.55	
Nikkei	21336.12	+0.38	+11.62	

Today's Opening Rates % Change Day * End 2016 **EUR/USD** 1.1761 -0.41 11 87 EUR/GBP 0.8879 -0.05 4.24 GBP/USD 1.3244 -0.36 7 36 GBP/EUR 0.05 1.1258 -4.07 USD/JPY 112.17 0.21 -4.02 **EUR/JPY** 7 15 131 94 -0.17v 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



0.8878
1.176
131.94
9.5645
7.4434
9.3248
1.1507
1.5006
9.1816
1.4752

Sterling				
GBP/EUR	1.1259			
GBP/USD	1.3245			
GBP/CAD	1.6612			
GBP/NZD	1.849			
GBP/JPY	148.58			
GBP/SEK	10.7673			
GBP/DKK	8.381			
GBP/NOK	10.5022			
GBP/CHF	1.2957			
GBP/AUD	1.6894			

Dollar				
USD/JPY	112.18			
USD/CAD	1.2544			
USD/CHF	0.9785			
USD/CNY	6.6135			
USD/BRL	3.1717			
USD/RUB	57.3461			
USD/INR	64.945			
AUD/USD	0.7835			
NZD/USD	0.7161			

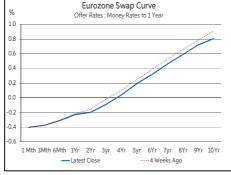












	Debt	Markets			
			Change bps	;	
	Close	Day	4 Weeks	End 16	
10 Year Yield %					
US	2.30	+3	+7	-14	
Germany	0.37	-3	-9	+17	
UK	1.33	-3	+4	+10	
Ireland	0.58	-5	-13	-17	
Belgium	0.64	-3	-9	+13	
France	0.78	-3	+5	+11	
Italy	2.03	-4	-9	+22	
Spain	1.56	-3	-1	+19	
Portugal	2.29	+2	-11	-144	
Greece	5.41	-4	+14	-146	
5 Year Swap %					
US	2.00	+2	+11	+5	
Eurozone	0.19	-3	-5	+12	
UK	1.08	-2	+2	+20	
2 Year Swap %					
US	1.77	+1	+12	+33	
Eurozone	-0.20	-3	-4	-4	
UK	0.83	-1	+5	+23	
10 Year Government Bond Spreads to Benchmark bps					
Ireland	21	-2	-4	-34	
Belgium	27	-0	-0	-4	
France	41	-0	+14	-6	
Italy	166	-1	-1	+5	
Spain	119	-O	+8	+2	
Portugal	192	+5	-2	-161	
Greece	505	-1	+23	-163	

Commodities					
_	% Change				
	Close	Day	4 Weeks	End 16	
Brent Oil	57.82	+1.14	+4.22	+1.76	
West Texas Oil	51.86	+0.84	+3.97	-3.52	
CRB - All Commodity CRB - Food	184.62 341.62	-0.11 +0.39	+0.48 +3.53	-4.10 +0.85	
Gold \$	1295.5	-0.75	-1.00	+12.43	

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