# **Morning Comment**

AIB Treasury Economic Research Unit



Monday 23 October 2017 07:27 am

### Event risk for euro this week

Sterling was in the market crossfires last week. The currency was impacted by Brexit uncertainty, less hawkish BoE comments and mixed macro updates. However, it finished the week with some upward momentum on the back of conciliatory Brexit tones emerging as the EU summit concluded. Overnight, the victory (as expected) for PM Abe in the snap Japanese elections has resulted in some modest weakening for the yen. Meanwhile, the euro opens lower, not helped by on-going political difficulties within Spain.

This week, the ECB meeting will be very much front and centre of market attention. While no changes to interest rates are expected, President Draghi has teed up markets for an announcement on the ECB's QE programme. Market expectations are for the rate of monthly purchases to be reduced from its current €60bn to between €30-40bn (taking effect next year) and the end date pushed out by 6-9 months. While adjustments to QE have been well flagged, nonetheless the market's interpretation of what is actually announced could cause some volatility for the euro. Datawise, in the Eurozone we get a raft of survey data including the flash PMI's for October. Overall, the surveys are expected to show that the economy continues to perform strongly at start of Q4 and therefore, at the margin, should be supportive of the euro.

For sterling, the key release is Q3 GDP, with the consensus forecast for growth to have remained subdued (at 0.3% q/q). Such an outcome could put some downward pressure on the currency. Similarly, Q3 GDP is also the main release in the US, with a 2.6% annualised growth rate expected. However, with the impact on the economy from the hurricanes hard to predict, a surprise cannot be ruled out. Thus, there could be some two-way risk for the dollar. The dollar could also be sensitive to the potential announcement this week of President Trump's choice to be the next Fed Chair. **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	1.125	1.24	1.36	1.83	1.81	2.09	
EUR	0.00	-0.37	-0.33	-0.18	-0.18	0.23	
GBP	0.25	0.31	0.39	0.74	0.81	1.09	
Equity Indices							
	% 0		Changes				
	Late	Latest Close		on Day		End 2016 to Date	
Dow Jones	23	23328.63		+0.71		+18.04	
S&P 500	2	2575.21		+0.51		+15.02	
FTSE 100	75	7523.23		+0.00		+5.33	
DJ Stoxx 50	36	3605.09		+0.08		+9.56	
ISEQ	6	6789.78		+0.63		+4.18	
Nikkei	21	21696.65		+1.11		+13.51	

#### Today's Opening Rates % Change Day \* End 2016 EUR/USD 1.1766 -0.41 11 92 EUR/GBP 0.8909 4.59 -1.16 GBP/USD 1.3208 0.82 7 0 7 GBP/EUR -4.39 1.1222 1.18 USD/JPY 113.69 0.44 -2.72 EUR/JPY 0.04 133 79 8.65 v Previous Day's European Open See Next Page for More Rates







### All rates quoted are indicative market rates

FX Spot	Karl Cooke Shane Gargan Adrian Flanagan Enda Homan
	Enda Homan

FX Options Mark Tuite Lenny Hogan Equity Options Gary Luff Reuters AIBI Phone 00353-1-7724018 See Next Page For More Rates & Charts

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## **Opening Levels**

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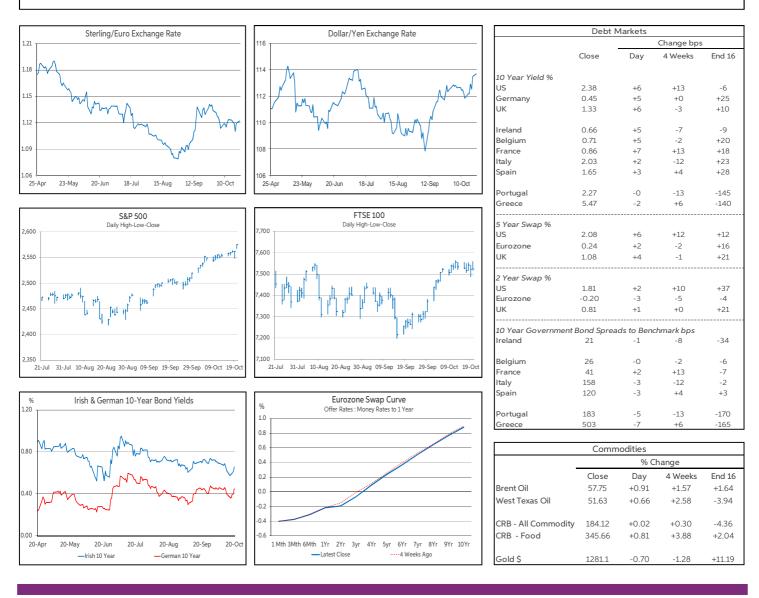


Euro	
EUR/GBP	0.8907
EUR/USD	1.1766
EUR/JPY	133.8
EUR/SEK	9.6167
EUR/DKK	7.4436
EUR/NOK	9.3892
EUR/CHF	1.1572
EUR/AUD	1.5025
EUR/HKD	9.1808
EUR/CAD	1.4846

Sterl	ng
GBP/EUR	1.1223
GBP/USD	1.3209
GBP/CAD	1.6665
GBP/NZD	1.8904
GBP/JPY	150.17
GBP/SEK	10.7938
GBP/DKK	8.3554
GBP/NOK	10.5383
GBP/CHF	1.299
GBP/AUD	1.6866

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Dollar					
USD/JPY	113.69				
USD/CAD	1.2612				
USD/CHF	0.9835				
USD/CNY	6.6302				
USD/BRL	3.1927				
USD/RUB	57.5118				
USD/INR	65.005				
AUD/USD	0.7831				
NZD/USD	0.6984				



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