# **Morning Comment**

AIB Treasury Economic Research Unit

Friday 23 October 2020 07:17 am

### Flash October PMIs in focus today

There was a mixed tone to investor sentiment yesterday. European risk appetite was a bit softer against the backdrop of rising Covid-19 numbers and the re-imposition of some restrictions in the region. The Euro Stoxx 50 finished the day slightly lower (-0.3%). The mood on Wall Street was somewhat more upbeat. At the closing bell last night, the S&P 500 was up 0.5% on the day.

On the currency front, the action was mostly confined to relatively narrow ranges amongst the main pairs. Of the limited moves to register, the dollar was slightly firmer against the euro and sterling.

Data-wise, as expected none of the releases had any major directional influence on their respective currencies. In the Eurozone, the flash reading of the EC consumer confidence index for October missed slightly to the downside of expectations. Meanwhile, in the US, weekly jobless claims data and existing home sales (Sept) surprised to the upside of forecasts.

The opening levels this morning reflect the slightly firmer tone to the dollar over the past 24 hours. The EUR/USD pair has edged back below the \$1.18 threshold, while GBP/USD has been unable to hold above the \$1.31 mark. It is currently changing hands near the midpoint of \$1.30-1.31. Meanwhile, EUR/GBP continues to operate in the lower half of the 90-91p trading band.

Ahead today, we get the main data event of the week with the flash PMIs for October due from the Eurozone, US and UK. Amid concerns that the economic recovery may be losing momentum after it's summer rebound, the data will be assessed for signs of this. Currency-wise though, unless any of these surveys surprise significantly, their market impact may be limited. John Fahey, Senior Economist, AIB

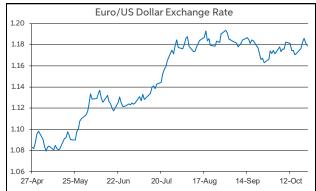
Today's Opening FX Rates					
		% Change			
	_	Day *	End 2019		
EUR/USD	1.1791	-0.46	5.18		
EUR/GBP	0.9033	0.16	6.85		
GBP/USD	1.3053	-0.59	-1.55		
GBP/EUR	1.1069	-0.15	-6.41		
USD/JPY	104.7	0.00	-3.60		
EUR/JPY	123.46	-0.45	1.34		
* v Previous Day's European Open					
See Next Page for More Rates					

Opening Interest Rates						
		Money Market		Swap Rates		S
	Base Rate	1-Mth	3-Mth	1-Yr	2-Yr	5-Yr
USD	0.125	0.15	0.21	0.20	0.25	0.44
EUR	0.00	-0.54	-0.51	-0.52	-0.51	-0.44
GBP	0.10	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.08	0.23

#### All rates quoted are indicative market rates

FX Spot Karl Cooke Shane Gargan Enda Homan

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#### See Next Page For More Rates & Charts

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## **Opening Levels**

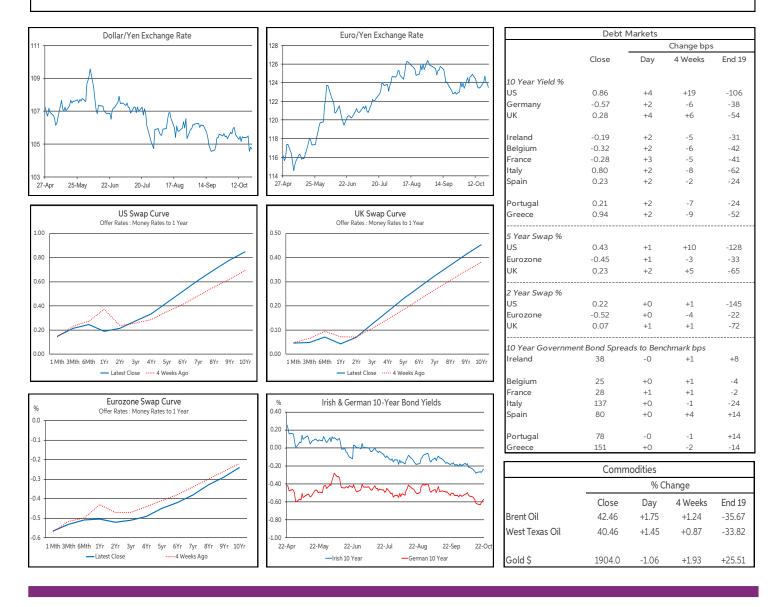
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Eur	0
EUR/GBP	0.9033
EUR/USD	1.1791
EUR/JPY	123.46
EUR/SEK	10.3638
EUR/DKK	7.4399
EUR/NOK	10.953
EUR/CHF	1.0707
EUR/AUD	1.6594
EUR/HKD	9.1385
EUR/CAD	1.5511

Sterling		
GBP/EUR	1.1069	
GBP/USD	1.3053	
GBP/CAD	1.7165	
GBP/NZD	1.96	
GBP/JPY	136.66	
GBP/SEK	11.4692	
GBP/DKK	8.2352	
GBP/NOK	12.1213	
GBP/CHF	1.1849	
GBP/AUD	1.8369	

Dollar				
USD/JPY	104.7			
USD/CAD	1.3155			
USD/CHF	0.9078			
USD/CNY	6.6871			
USD/BRL	5.5926			
USD/RUB	76.5195			
USD/INR	73.575			
AUD/USD	0.7104			
NZD/USD	0.6657			



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