Morning Comment

AIB Treasury Economic Research Unit



Friday 27 October 2017 07:28 am

Euro falls as dollar strengthens

Yesterday's ECB meeting concluded with no change to interest rates, as expected. The Governing Council announced that it would reduce the size of its monthly asset purchases from €60bn to €30bn from January, holding them at this level until at least September 2018. Again, this was in line with expectations. The ECB, though, retained its overall easing bias, stating that it could increase the size of its monthly purchases, or extend the timeframe beyond September, if deemed necessary. Therefore, the ECB is keep its options regarding future asset purchases very much open.

The market reaction to the news saw the Euro Stoxx 50 index rise by 1.3% on the day, outperforming the US S&P 500, which was broadly flat. Meantime, sovereign bond yields fell in all Eurozone countries, with German 10-year bund yields down 5bps.

In terms of the currency reaction, the euro adopted a weaker tone. This saw EUR/GBP fall below the 89p mark. At the same time, news reports that current Fed Chair Yellen (who is generally thought of a being cautious on policy) will not be nominated for a second term by President Trump provided some support to the dollar. So too did further progress towards Trump's fiscal stimulus, with the House passing a budget 'blueprint' last night. EUR/USD fell from its opening above \$1.18 to down near \$1.16. Cable (GBP/USD) moved from \$1.325 to close to \$1.31.

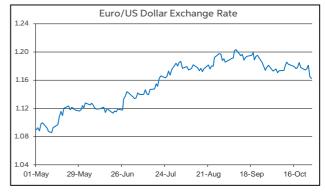
The focus in the day ahead will be the first reading of US Q3 GDP. The market expects solid annualised growth of 2.5%. However, it is hard to estimate the potential impact of the hurricanes on growth in the quarter. Thus, forecasts have a wider than usual margin for error. The Fed has stated that it is willing to 'look through' weather related distortions when considering its policy. As a result, potential dollar impact from a forecast 'miss' today may be limited.

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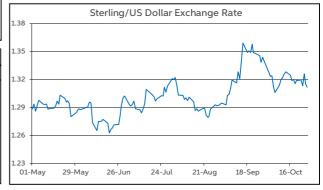
Opening Interest Rates						
		Short Term			Long Term	
	Base Rate	1-Mth	3-Mth	12-Mth	2-Yr	5-Yr
USD	1.125	1.24	1.38	1.84	1.86	2.14
EUR	0.00	-0.37	-0.33	-0.18	-0.18	0.23
GBP	0.25	0.36	0.42	0.77	0.86	1.13

Equity Indices					
		% Changes			
	Latest Close	on Day	End 2016 to Date		
Dow Jones	23400.86	+0.31	+18.41		
S&P 500	2560.4	+0.13	+14.36		
FTSE 100	7486.5	+0.53	+4.81		
DJ Stoxx 50	3637.2	+1.27	+10.54		
ISEQ	6850.92	+1.93	+5.12		
Nikkei	22008.45	+1.24	+15.14		

Today's Opening Rates % Change Day * End 2016 **EUR/USD** 1.1625 -1.69 10.58 EUR/GBP 0.8863 4.05 -0.56 GBP/USD 1.3117 6.33 -1 11 GBP/EUR 0.56 1.1281 -3.89 USD/JPY 114.2 0.62 -2.28 **EUR/JPY** 132.76 -1.087 81 v 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



Euro	
EUR/GBP	0.8863
EUR/USD	1.1625
EUR/JPY	132.77
EUR/SEK	9.7276
EUR/DKK	7.4422
EUR/NOK	9.5164
EUR/CHF	1.162
EUR/AUD	1.5218
EUR/HKD	9.0714
EUR/CAD	1.4973

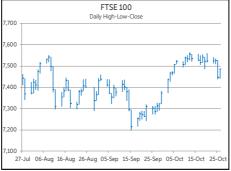
Sterling			
GBP/EUR	1.1281		
GBP/USD	1.3117		
GBP/CAD	1.6896		
GBP/NZD	1.9174		
GBP/JPY	149.8		
GBP/SEK	10.9697		
GBP/DKK	8.395		
GBP/NOK	10.7369		
GBP/CHF	1.3109		
GBP/AUD	1.7169		

Dollar				
USD/JPY	114.2			
USD/CAD	1.2879			
USD/CHF	0.9994			
USD/CNY	6.6536			
USD/BRL	3.2899			
USD/RUB	57.862			
USD/INR	65.1			
AUD/USD	0.7638			
NZD/USD	0.6839			

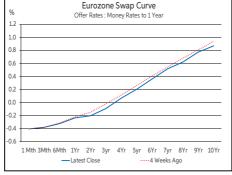












	Debt	Markets			
			Change bps	;	
	Close	Day	4 Weeks	End 16	
10 Year Yield %					
US	2.46	+3	+15	+2	
Germany	0.43	-5	-4	+23	
UK	1.39	-1	+1	+16	
Ireland	0.64	-4	-10	-11	
Belgium	0.67	-5	-9	+16	
France	0.85	-2	+9	+18	
Italy	1.95	-8	-22	+14	
Spain	1.53	-10	-8	+16	
Portugal	2.22	-4	-15	-151	
Greece	5.46	-4	-15	-142	
5 Year Swap %					
US	2.11	+0	+15	+15	
Eurozone	0.21	-6	-6	+13	
UK	1.12	-1	+1	+24	
2 Year Swap %					
US	1.82	-0	+11	+38	
Eurozone	-0.20	-3	-5	-4	
UK	0.84	-1	+1	+24	
10 Year Government Bond Spreads to Benchmark bps					
Ireland	21	+1	-6	-34	
Belgium	24	-0	-5	-8	
France	42	+3	+13	-5	
Italy	152	-3	-17	-9	
Spain	110	-5	-4	-7	
Portugal	179	+1	-11	-174	
Greece	503	+1	-10	-165	

Commodities				
_	% Change			
	Close	Day	4 Weeks	End 16
Brent Oil	59.3	+1.47	+3.29	+4.36
West Texas Oil	52.41	+0.85	+1.53	-2.49
CRB - All Commodity	185.94	+0.29	+1.61	-3.42
CRB - Food	347.55	+0.55	+4.97	+2.60
Gold \$	1267.5	-0.81	-1.57	+10.00

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