Morning Comment

AIB Treasury Economic Research Unit



Thursday 03 October 2019 07:24 am

Equities fall sharply

Yesterday, the UK government officially released its alternative proposals for the Irish 'backstop'. Sterling reaction, however, was muted as large parts of the plan had been leaked in the previous few days. Given that the proposals involve the creation of a border on the island of Ireland, they are unlikely to be accepted by the EU.

Meanwhile, risk aversion continued to dominate on markets yesterday in the face of numerous headwinds to global growth. The S&P 500 shed another 1.8%, while the FTSE 100 and the Euro Stoxx 50 dropped by 3.2% and 3.0%, respectively. In overnight trading, the Nikkei was down 2.0%. There was only a limited spillover into FX markets, with the yen adopting a firmer tone.

In level terms, the limited action in the main pairs sees them open broadly unchanged from 24 hours previous. EUR/USD has, though, edged up slightly to trade at the midpoint of the \$1.09-1.10 band. EUR/GBP remains just above the 89p threshold, while cable (GBP/USD) is still operating below the \$1.23 level.

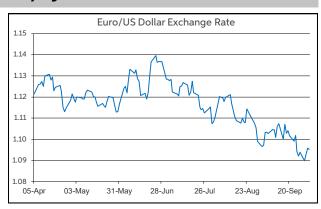
Turning to the day ahead, retail sales for August are the only data of note due in the Eurozone. The forecast is for a solid 0.3% rise, but euro impact will likely be limited. In the UK, the September services PMI is due, with the index expected to have fallen to 50.3, a level barely consistent with growth. However, Brexit newsflow will likely remain the main driver of sterling.

Across the Atlantic, the non-manufacturing ISM for September will feature. It is anticipated that the index dropped from 56.4 to 55.0. However, such a reading would still be consistent with a moderate level of growth. Overall, both the dollar and risk sentiment could prove vulnerable to a downside surprise, given the reaction following the release of weak US manufacturing data on Tuesday.

Conor Beakey, Economist, AIB

| Today's Opening FX Rates | | | | | | |
|----------------------------------|--------|----------------|-------|--|--|--|
| | | % Change | | | | |
| | | Day * End 2018 | | | | |
| EUR/USD | 1.0952 | 0.17 | -4.51 | | | |
| EUR/GBP | 0.8906 | 0.07 | -0.87 | | | |
| GBP/USD | 1.2293 | 0.08 | -3.64 | | | |
| GBP/EUR | 1.1223 | -0.07 | 0.88 | | | |
| USD/JPY | 107.11 | -0.66 | -2.24 | | | |
| EUR/JPY | 117.33 | -0.48 | -6.67 | | | |
| * v Previous Day's European Open | | | | | | |

| Opening Interest Rates | | | | | | |
|------------------------|-----------|----------------------|-------|--------|-------|-------|
| | _ | Short Term Long Term | | | | Term |
| | Base Rate | 1-Mth | 3-Mth | 12-Mth | 2-Yr | 5-Yr |
| USD | 1.875 | 2.00 | 2.06 | 1.96 | 1.49 | 1.37 |
| EUR | 0.00 | -0.47 | -0.43 | -0.33 | -0.46 | -0.42 |
| GBP | 0.75 | 0.71 | 0.77 | 0.91 | 0.67 | 0.61 |









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 | AIBI 00353-1-7724018 | Morning Comment | John Fahey john.j.fahey@aib.ie |
|---------|--|-----------------------|------------|------------------|-------------------------|-----------------|-----------------------------------|
| | | Equity Options | Gary Luff | | | | |

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Opening Levels



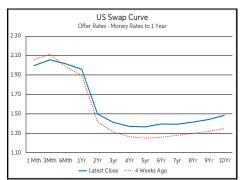
| Euro | |
|---------|--------|
| EUR/GBP | 0.8906 |
| EUR/USD | 1.0952 |
| EUR/JPY | 117.33 |
| EUR/SEK | 10.814 |
| EUR/DKK | 7.4656 |
| EUR/NOK | 10 |
| EUR/CHF | 1.0953 |
| EUR/AUD | 1.6318 |
| EUR/HKD | 8.5888 |
| EUR/CAD | 1.4588 |

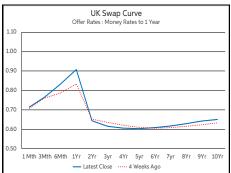
| Sterling | | | | | |
|----------|---------|--|--|--|--|
| GBP/EUR | 1.1223 | | | | |
| GBP/USD | 1.2293 | | | | |
| GBP/CAD | 1.6371 | | | | |
| GBP/NZD | 1.9623 | | | | |
| GBP/JPY | 131.67 | | | | |
| GBP/SEK | 12.1358 | | | | |
| GBP/DKK | 8.3801 | | | | |
| GBP/NOK | 11.2273 | | | | |
| GBP/CHF | 1.2294 | | | | |
| GBP/AUD | 1.8316 | | | | |

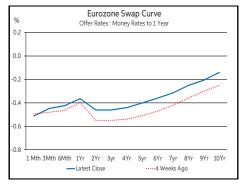
| Dollar | | | | | |
|---------|---------|--|--|--|--|
| USD/JPY | 107.11 | | | | |
| USD/CAD | 1.332 | | | | |
| USD/CHF | 0.9999 | | | | |
| USD/CNY | 7.1477 | | | | |
| USD/BRL | 4.1284 | | | | |
| USD/RUB | 65.2022 | | | | |
| USD/INR | 71.1225 | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| AUD/USD | 0.6711 | | | | |
| NZD/USD | 0.6261 | | | | |
| | | | | | |













| Debt Markets | | | | | | |
|-----------------|---------------|------------|------------|--------|--|--|
| | | Change bps | | | | |
| | Close | Day | 4 Weeks | End 18 | | |
| 10 Year Yield % | | | | | | |
| US | 1.60 | -3 | +13 | -108 | | |
| Germany | -0.55 | +2 | +13 | -79 | | |
| UK | 0.49 | +3 | +1 | -77 | | |
| Ireland | -0.02 | +2 | +4 | N/A | | |
| Belgium | -0.22 | +3 | +11 | -98 | | |
| France | -0.26 | +1 | +12 | -96 | | |
| Italy | 0.89 | +4 | +8 | -183 | | |
| Spain | 0.14 | +2 | +2 | -127 | | |
| Portugal | 0.17 | +1 | +3 | -153 | | |
| Greece | 1.34 | +1 | -19 | -295 | | |
| 5 Year Swap % | | | | | | |
| US | 1.36 | -10 | +12 | -120 | | |
| Eurozone | -0.40 | -1 | +11 | -63 | | |
| UK | 0.60 | -O | -1 | -71 | | |
| 2 Year Swap % | | | | | | |
| US | 1.50 | -9 | +8 | -114 | | |
| Eurozone | -0.46 | -2 | +9 | -32 | | |
| UK | 0.64 | -4 | -1 | -52 | | |
| 10 Year Governm | ent Bond Spre | ads to Ben | chmark bps | | | |
| Ireland | 54 | +0 | -8 | N/A | | |
| Belgium | 33 | +1 | -1 | -19 | | |
| France | 30 | -0 | -1 | -17 | | |
| Italy | 144 | +2 | -5 | -104 | | |
| Spain | 70 | -0 | -11 | -48 | | |
| Portugal | 73 | -1 | -10 | -74 | | |
| Greece | 190 | -1 | -31 | -216 | | |

| Commodities | | | | | | | |
|----------------|--------------------------|-------|-------|--------|--|--|--|
| | % Change | | | | | | |
| | Close Day 4 Weeks End 18 | | | | | | |
| Brent Oil | 57.69 | -2.04 | -4.96 | +7.23 | | | |
| West Texas Oil | 52.67 | -1.74 | -6.31 | +16.66 | | | |
| Gold \$ | 1499.8 | +1.38 | -3.42 | +16.90 | | | |

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