Morning Comment

AIB Treasury Economic Research Unit



Tuesday 10 September 2019 07:17 am

UK data boosts sterling

Sterling continued to move higher yesterday. The currency benefitted from the release of better than expected UK macro data. The monthly GDP growth rate picked up to 0.3% (forecast +0.1%) in July, helping to reduce concerns that the UK economy is on the brink of a recession.

On the political front, developments in Westminster had little impact on sterling. PM Johnson failed for a second time to get the required support needed to call a general election. The government also formally prorogued (suspended) the UK Parliament until October 14th.

In level terms, the firmer sterling tone is reflected in EUR/GBP trading back down at the midpoint of the 89-90p band. At the same time, cable (GBP/USD) opens this morning above the \$1.23 threshold. Meanwhile, EUR/USD is still changing hands in the lower half of the \$1.10-1.11 range.

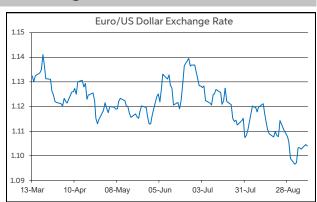
Elsewhere, bond yields continued to move higher globally yesterday. This occurred against a backdrop of reports of a possible increase in German fiscal expenditure, encouraging comments from the US regarding trade tensions, and positive Brexit developments. However, equity market impact was muted.

Today, the highlight of the schedule is the UK labour market bulletin for the 3 months to July. Employment growth looks to have slowed slightly in the period (f'cast 1.2%), while the jobless rate looks to have held at 3.9%. At the same time, tight labour market conditions are expected to see underlying wage inflation remain robust at 3.8%. The data may help sterling continue to move higher. Meanwhile, there is little out in the Eurozone or US, meaning EUR/USD could operate in a narrow range today.

Conor Beakey, Economist, AIB

Today's Opening FX Rates					
		% Change			
		Day *	End 2018		
EUR/USD	1.104	0.12	-3.74		
EUR/GBP	0.8947	-0.38	-0.41		
GBP/USD	1.2337	0.50	-3.29		
GBP/EUR	1.1172	0.38	0.41		
USD/JPY	107.31	0.40	-2.05		
EUR/JPY	118.49	0.52	-5.74		
* v Previous Day's European Open					

Opening Interest Rates						
		Short Term Long Term				
	Base Rate	1-Mth	3-Mth	2-Yr	5-Yr	
USD	2.125	2.05	2.14	1.95	1.57	1.42
EUR	0.00	-0.45	-0.44	-0.36	-0.51	-0.45
GBP	0.75	0.71	0.77	0.89	0.73	0.68









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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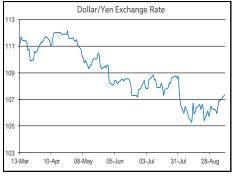
Opening Levels



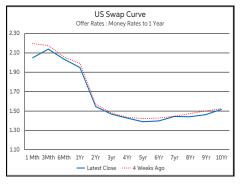
Euro)
EUR/GBP	0.8947
EUR/USD	1.104
EUR/JPY	118.49
EUR/SEK	10.6732
EUR/DKK	7.4593
EUR/NOK	9.8757
EUR/CHF	1.0955
EUR/AUD	1.6112
EUR/HKD	8.656
EUR/CAD	1.4548

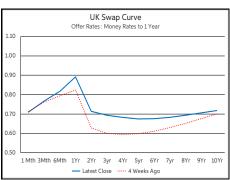
Sterling				
GBP/EUR	1.1172			
GBP/USD	1.2337			
GBP/CAD	1.6257			
GBP/NZD	1.9196			
GBP/JPY	132.39			
GBP/SEK	11.9232			
GBP/DKK	8.3336			
GBP/NOK	11.0301			
GBP/CHF	1.2243			
GBP/AUD	1.8004			

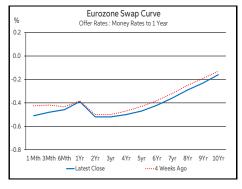
107.31
1.3175
0.9921
7.1194
4.0944
65.5341
71.734
0.6852
0.6426













	Debt	Markets			
			Change bps	i	
	Close	Day	4 Weeks	End 18	
10 Year Yield %					
US	1.65	+9	+1	-104	
Germany	-0.59	+6	+1	-82	
UK	0.59	+9	+10	-68	
Ireland	-0.01	+7	+2	N/A	
Belgium	-0.23	+7	+1	-99	
France	-0.28	+6	+0	-99	
Italy	0.94	+7	-77	-177	
Spain	0.20	+6	-2	-121	
Portugal	0.24	+5	+1	-147	
Greece	1.55	+1	-59	-274	
5 Year Swap %					
US	1.39	+3	-3	-117	
Eurozone	-0.47	+1	-4	-70	
UK	0.67	+4	+8	-64	
2 Year Swap %					
US	1.55	+2	-2	-109	
Eurozone	-0.52	+0	-2	-38	
UK	0.71	+2	+9	-45	
10 Year Government Bond Spreads to Benchmark bps					
Ireland	57	+1	+0	N/A	
Belgium	35	+1	-1	-17	
France	30	+0	-1	-16	
Italy	153	+1	-79	-95	
Spain	79	-0	-3	-39	
Portugal	82	-0	-1	-65	
Greece	214	-5	-60	-192	

Commodities							
		% Change					
	Close Day 4 Weeks End 18						
Brent Oil	62.59	+1.71	+6.86	+16.34			
West Texas Oil	57.88	+2.53	+5.27	+28.19			
Gold \$	1499.3	-0.53	-0.82	+16.86			

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