## **Morning Comment**

AIB Treasury Economic Research Unit



Friday 18 September 2020 07:30 am

## Euro regains some momentum

The currency market action over the past 24 hours, has been for the most part confined to relatively tight ranges. Of the limited moves to register over the period, the euro has regained some upward momentum following a softer patch earlier in the week.

The main event of note yesterday was the BoE meeting for September. As expected, the central bank left its policy unchanged. It continued to emphasise the highly uncertain UK economic outlook owing to both Covid and Brexit related risks. As a result, it retains a bias to ease policy further if required. From a sterling perspective, there was no major BoE impact. Meanwhile, it was a quiet day of Brexit newsflow for sterling watchers to digest.

Data-wise, both the Eurozone and UK calendars were very sparse yesterday. There was a busier diary in the US. Overall, the results were mixed in nature. Housing starts for August missed to the downside of forecasts, weekly initial jobless claims were slightly above expectations, while the Philly Fed survey for September was in line with projections. Overall though, the was no notable reaction from the dollar to any of these releases.

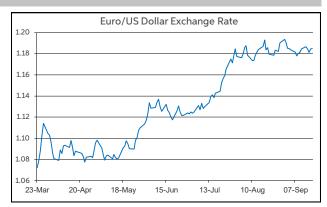
The firmer tone to the euro is reflected in EUR/USD trading this morning back up in \$1.18-1.19 territory, while EUR/GBP has regained the 91p threshold. Meanwhile, GBP/USD continues to trade near the midpoint of \$1.29-1.30.

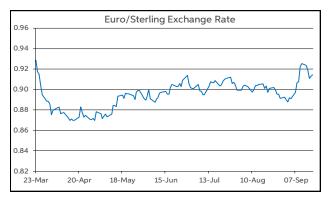
In terms of today's calendar, already this morning we got UK retail sales (Aug). The figures printed slightly ahead of forecasts but have not resulted in any immediate sterling reaction. The only other data highlight is US consumer sentiment (Sept). So given the quiet data diary, the main FX pairs may remain in relatively narrow ranges.

John Fahey, Senior Economist, AIB

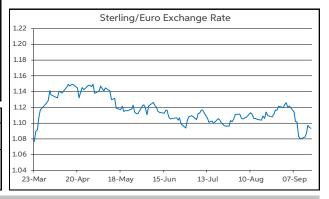
Т Т	Today's Opening FX Rates						
		% Change					
		Day * End 2019					
EUR/USD	1.185	0.79	5.71				
EUR/GBP	0.9146	0.55	8.19				
GBP/USD	1.2957	0.26	-2.28				
GBP/EUR	1.0931	-0.55	-7.57				
USD/JPY	104.79	-0.26	-3.52				
EUR/JPY	124.2	0.53	1.95				
* v Previous Day's European Open							

Opening Interest Rates						
Money Market Swap Rates						
	Base Rate	1-Mth	3-Mth	1-Yr	2-Yr	5-Yr
USD	0.125	0.16	0.23	0.20	0.24	0.34
EUR	0.00	-0.53	-0.49	-0.48	-0.47	-0.42
GBP	0.10	0.05	0.05	0.04	0.03	0.14









All rates quoted are indicative market rates

See Next Page for More Rates

See Next Page For More Rates & Charts

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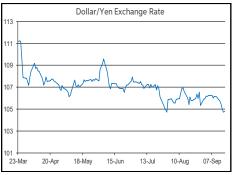
## **Opening Levels**



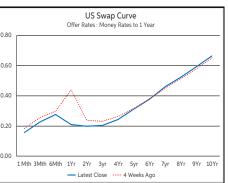
Euro	
EUR/GBP	0.9146
EUR/USD	1.185
EUR/JPY	124.2
EUR/SEK	10.3986
EUR/DKK	7.441
EUR/NOK	10.7083
EUR/CHF	1.0766
EUR/AUD	1.6198
EUR/HKD	9.183
EUR/CAD	1.5597

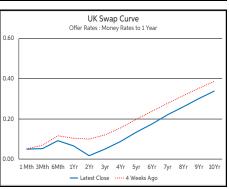
Sterling				
GBP/EUR	1.0931			
GBP/USD	1.2957			
GBP/CAD	1.7049			
GBP/NZD	1.9074			
GBP/JPY	135.78			
GBP/SEK	11.3679			
GBP/DKK	8.1347			
GBP/NOK	11.7043			
GBP/CHF	1.1772			
GBP/AUD	1.7709			

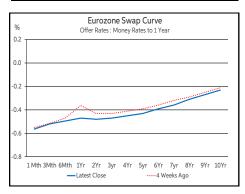
Dollar				
USD/JPY	104.79			
USD/CAD	1.316			
USD/CHF	0.9085			
USD/CNY	6.7566			
USD/BRL	5.2394			
USD/RUB	75.0145			
USD/INR	73.3			
AUD/USD	0.7312			
NZD/USD	0.6789			













	Debt	Markets		
			Change bps	5
	Close	Day	4 Weeks	End 19
10 Year Yield %				
US	0.69	-1	+4	-123
Germany	-0.49	-1	+0	-31
UK	0.19	-3	-4	-64
Ireland	-0.13	-2	+2	-25
Belgium	-0.26	-1	-4	-36
France	-0.23	-1	-3	-35
Italy	0.96	-2	-2	-47
Spain	0.27	+1	-3	-20
Portugal	0.29	-1	-6	-16
Greece	1.07	+0	-3	-39
5 Year Swap %				
US	0.31	-O	+0	-140
Eurozone	-0.43	-2	-3	-31
UK	0.13	-5	-6	-74
2 Year Swap %				
US	0.20	+0	-O	-146
Eurozone	-0.48	-1	-4	-18
UK	0.02	-5	-7	-78
10 Year Governm	nent Bond Spre	ads to Ben	chmark bps	
Ireland	36	-0	+2	+5
Belgium	23	+0	-4	-6
France	26	+1	-3	-5
Italy	145	-1	-3	-17
Spain	76	+2	-3	+10
Portugal	78	+1	-6	+15
Greece	156	+2	-3	-8

Commodities								
		% Change						
	Close	Close Day 4 Weeks End 19						
Brent Oil	43.3	+2.56	-3.56	-34.39				
West Texas Oil	40.99	+2.04	-3.82	-32.96				
Gold \$	1942.6 -0.85 +0.00 +28.05							

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