Morning Comment

AIB Treasury Economic Research Unit

Wednesday 16 April 2025 07:41 am

Sterling continues to move slightly higher

There was a cautious tone to investor sentiment yesterday on both sides of the Atlantic. Against this backdrop, the Euro Stoxx 50 gained 1.2%, while on Wall Street, the S&P 500 edged 0.2% lower. On bond markets, benchmark 10-year yields were little changed. US Treasury and UK Gilt yields inched 2-4bps lower, with German Bund yields rising by 2bps.

On the data front, the ECB Bank Lending Survey indicated that credit growth remained muted in the Eurozone. Elsewhere, the German ZEW economic sentiment indicator plunged to -14.0 in April from 51.6 in March, amid US trade policy uncertainty. The April reading was the lowest since July 2023, and well below the consensus of 9.5.

Currency-wise, the euro was under some downward pressure following the data releases. This saw EUR/USD slip below the \$1.13 handle during the European session yesterday. However, the euro recouped most of its loses overnight. At the same time, sterling has remained in the ascendancy over the past 24 hours.

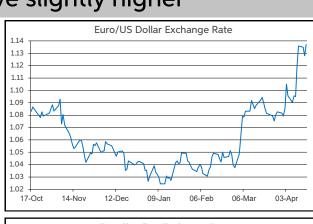
As trading gets underway this morning, EUR/GBP is in the top half of 85-86p. EUR/USD remains in the upper region of \$1.13-1.14. Meanwhile, GBP/USD is above the midpoint of \$1.32-1.33.

Already this morning, UK inflation data have printed broadly in-line with expectations. The headline CPI rate fell to 2.6% in March (vs. 2.7% f'cast), while the core rate printed at 3.4%, matching the consensus. The data have not impacted sterling so far in early trading. Later today, US retail sales and industrial production (both March) are due. Elsewhere remarks from Fed Chair Powell will garner attention.

Daniel Noonan, Economist, AIB

Today's Opening FX Rates					
		% Change			
		Day *	End 2024		
EUR/USD	1.137	0.11	9.82		
EUR/GBP	0.8569	-0.28	3.58		
GBP/USD	1.3265	0.42	6.03		
GBP/EUR	1.1666	0.28	-3.45		
USD/JPY	142.39	-0.45	-9.41		
EUR/JPY	161.85	-0.37	-0.55		
* v Previous Day's European Open					
See Next Page for More Rates					

Opening Interest Rates							
		Money	Market	Swap Rates			
	Base Rate	1-Mth	3-Mth	1-Yr	2-Yr	5-Yr	
USD	4.38	4.32	4.26	3.85	3.85	3.86	
EUR	2.65	2.25	2.25	2.02	1.95	2.20	
GBP	4.50	4.38	4.25	3.87	3.96	4.01	







All rates quoted are indicative market rates

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FX Options

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Opening Levels

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142.39 1.3929 0.8145 7.3255 5.8864 82.35 85.665

0.6349

Euro		Sterl	Dollar	
EUR/GBP	0.8568	GBP/EUR	1.1668	USD/JPY
EUR/USD	1.1371	GBP/USD	1.3269	USD/CAD
EUR/JPY	161.85	GBP/CAD	1.8474	USD/CHF
EUR/SEK	11.1731	GBP/NZD	2.2417	USD/CNY
EUR/DKK	7.4666	GBP/JPY	188.94	USD/BRL
EUR/NOK	12.1047	GBP/SEK	13.0382	USD/RUB
EUR/CHF	0.926	GBP/DKK	8.7098	USD/INR
EUR/AUD	1.7901	GBP/NOK	14.1242	
EUR/HKD	8.8209	GBP/CHF	1.0804	AUD/USD
EUR/CAD	1.5834	GBP/AUD	2.0886	NZD/USD



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