Morning Comment

AIB Treasury Economic Research Unit

Monday 14 February 2022 07:26 am

Markets remain volatile

It was another eventful and somewhat volatile period on markets last week. The focus at the moment is very much centred on inflation and the outlook for interest rates. As a result, markets remained reactive to inflation data and central bank speakers.

The main data highlight was US CPI inflation for January printing ahead of expectations. Headline inflation rose to 7.5% (f'cast 7.3%) from 7%, its highest level since early 1982. This provided a sharp, albeit short-lived boost, to the dollar. EUR/USD went from near \$1.145 to below \$1.14, before moving up again, to a high of \$1.149.

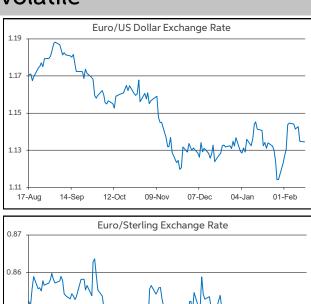
Meanwhile, on the central bank front, a raft of ECB speakers (incl. President Lagarde), attempted to row back somewhat on the very hawkish interpretation by futures markets on the change of tone on rates in their recent press conference. Although, futures contracts continue to price in 50bps of hikes by year end.

Elsewhere, there was also a number of Fed speakers. However, it was James Bullard (FOMC voter this year) who stole the limelight, stating his preference for a 50bps rate rise in March and another 50bps by end June. This saw EUR/USD move back below \$1.14. As trading gets underway this morning, EUR/USD is in the lower half of \$1.13-1.14. Meantime, EUR/GBP opens just below 84p, having spent most of last week near the midpoint of 84-85p.

This week, there is a busy diary in the US and UK. However, given the aforementioned focus for markets, UK CPI data and the Fed meeting minutes will be the most watched. Both releases have the potential for some impact on their respective currencies. Meanwhile, the Eurozone schedule is much quieter. Aside from the macro diary, markets will be watching developments in Ukraine. John Fahey, Senior Economist, AIB

Today's Opening FX Rates				
		% Change		
		Day *	End 2021	
EUR/USD	1.1346	-0.35	-0.19	
EUR/GBP	0.838	-0.39	-0.24	
GBP/USD	1.3536	0.04	0.05	
GBP/EUR	1.1924	0.39	0.24	
USD/JPY	115.38	-0.59	0.26	
EUR/JPY	130.93	-0.93	0.05	
* 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	0.125	0.19	0.51	1.25	1.78	1.97
EUR	0.00	-0.56	-0.52	-0.26	0.22	0.62
GBP	0.25	0.49	0.86	1.63	1.97	2.00









All rates quoted are indicative market rates

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See Next Page For More Rates & Charts

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Opening Levels

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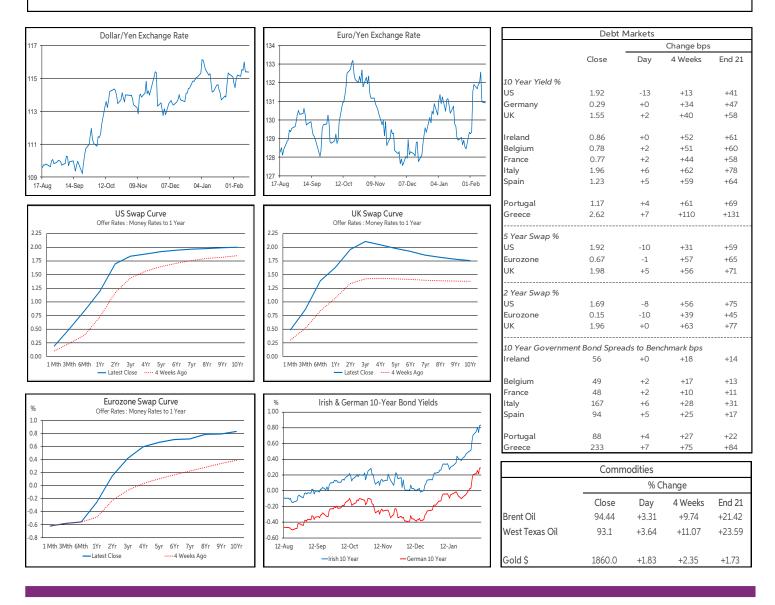


Euro				
EUR/GBP	0.838			
EUR/USD	1.1346			
EUR/JPY	130.93			
EUR/SEK	10.5856			
EUR/DKK	7.4402			
EUR/NOK	10.0544			
EUR/CHF	1.0497			
EUR/AUD	1.5926			
EUR/HKD	8.8508			
EUR/CAD	1.445			

Sterling		
GBP/EUR	1.1924	
GBP/USD	1.3536	
GBP/CAD	1.7239	
GBP/NZD	2.0439	
GBP/JPY	156.16	
GBP/SEK	12.6246	
GBP/DKK	8.8744	
GBP/NOK	11.9886	
GBP/CHF	1.252	
GBP/AUD	1.8999	

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Dollar				
USD/JPY	115.38			
USD/CAD	1.2735			
USD/CHF	0.9248			
USD/CNY	6.3601			
USD/BRL	5.2527			
USD/RUB	76.4859			
USD/INR	75.475			
AUD/USD	0.7125			
NZD/USD	0.6621			



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