Morning Comment

AIB Treasury Economic Research Unit



Wednesday 26 October 2016 07:31 am

Softer tone to sterling

Investor sentiment was holding a cautious tone for much of yesterday. Equity markets largely traded sideways. At the close last night on Wall Street, the S&P 500 was down modestly (-0.4%).

The action on currency markets saw sterling come under some downward pressure in the second half of European trading. There was no clear cut factor behind its decline. However, the softer tone to sterling did coincide with comments from the Chancellor of the Exchequer in relation to his support for the BoE's QE programme.

At one stage, sterling was down around 1% against both the dollar and the euro. In level terms, the weakness in sterling was evident in cable (GBP/USD) being unable to hold ground in the \$1.22 territory, briefly testing below the \$1.21 mark, before trading back up into the \$1.21-1.22 band. The action in EUR/GBP was also reflective of sterling's difficulties, with the pair moving higher within the 89-90p range.

Elsewhere, EUR/USD continued to trade in a narrow range just below the \$1.09 level. This was despite some surprises from the Eurozone and US macro schedules. The German Ifo for October came in ahead of market forecasts, while in the US, consumer confidence for October disappointed versus expectations.

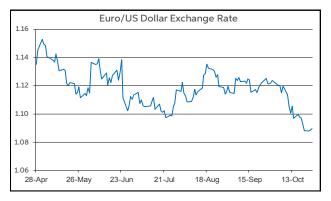
Turing to today, the macro calendar is very much on the sparse side. Indeed, the only releases of note come in the afternoon session, with US new home sales (Sept) and the services PMI (Oct) due. Given the quiet flow of macro data, the main FX pairs may be lacking in direction today and therefore could range trade near their current levels over the next 24 hours.

John Fahey, Senior Economist, AIB

Opening Interest Rates						
		Short Term			Long Term	
	Base Rate	1-Mth	3-Mth	12-Mth	2-Yr	5-Yr
USD	0.375	0.54	0.89	1.58	1.07	1.28
EUR	0.00	-0.37	-0.31	-0.07	-0.17	-0.04
GBP	0.25	0.26	0.40	0.80	0.61	0.75

Equity Indices				
		% Changes		
	Latest Close	on Day	End 2015 to Date	
Dow Jones	18169.27	-0.30	+4.27	
S&P 500	2143.16	-0.38	+4.85	
FTSE 100	7017.64	+0.45	+12.42	
DJ Stoxx 50	3087.41	-0.21	-5.51	
ISEQ	5969.85	-1.08	-12.10	
Nikkei	17391.84	+0.15	-8.63	

Today's Opening Rates % Change End 2015 Day * **EUR/USD** 1.0895 0.17 0.32 EUR/GBP 0.895 0.52 21.49 GBP/USD 1.2169 -0.39-17 43 GBP/EUR 1.1166 -0.51 -17.69 USD/JPY 104.2 -0.15 -13.38 EUR/JPY -0.03 113.52 -12.99v Previous Day's European Open See Next Page for More Rates \triangleright







All rates quoted are indicative market rates

See Next Page For More Rates & Charts

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Opening Levels



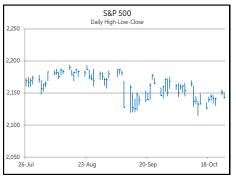
Euro	
EUR/GBP	0.895
EUR/USD	1.0895
EUR/JPY	113.52
EUR/SEK	9.7164
EUR/DKK	7.4378
EUR/NOK	9.0022
EUR/CHF	1.083
EUR/AUD	1.417
EUR/HKD	8.4493
EUR/CAD	1.4541

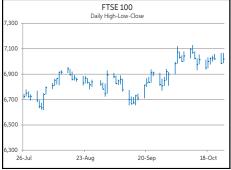
Sterling			
GBP/EUR	1.1166		
GBP/USD	1.2169		
GBP/CAD	1.6242		
GBP/NZD	1.6981		
GBP/JPY	126.8		
GBP/SEK	10.8514		
GBP/DKK	8.3072		
GBP/NOK	10.0499		
GBP/CHF	1.2096		
GBP/AUD	1.582		

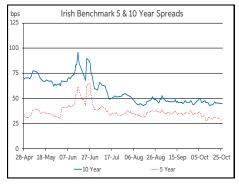
Dollar				
USD/JPY	104.2			
USD/CAD	1.3349			
USD/CHF	0.9937			
USD/CNY	6.768			
USD/BRL	3.1111			
USD/RUB	62.209			
USD/INR	66.7649			
AUD/USD	0.7689			
NZD/USD	0.7164			

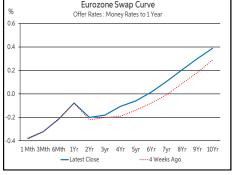












	Debt Markets				
		Change bps			
	Close	Day	4 Weeks	End 15	
10 Year Yield %					
US	1.76	-1	+20	-51	
Germany	0.03	+1	+17	-61	
UK	1.08	+0	+41	-87	
Ireland	0.47	+1	+13	-67	
Belgium	0.23	+1	+14	-73	
France	0.29	-1	+20	-69	
Italy	1.44	-1	+24	-15	
Spain	1.07	-2	+20	-69	
Portugal	3.16	+5	-23	+67	
Greece	8.21	-6	-3	+45	
US Eurozone UK	1.26 -0.06 0.73	-2 -2 -1	+11 +8 +26	-45 -39 -87	
 2 Year Swap %					
US	1.05	-1	+6	-10	
Eurozone	-0.20	-3	+2	-17	
UK	0.60	+1	+18	-51	
 10 Year Governme	ent Bond Spre	ads to Ben	chmark bps		
Ireland	44	+0	-3	-6	
Belgium	21	+0	-2	-12	
France	27	-1	+4	-8	
Italy	142	-1	+7	+45	
Spain	105	-2	+3	-9	
Portugal	313	+4	-40	+128	
Greece	818	-6	-19	+106	

Commodities				
_	% Change			
	Close	Day	4 Weeks	End 15
Brent Oil	50.79	-1.30	+10.49	+36.24
West Texas Oil	49.45	-1.45	+10.75	+33.18
CRB - All Commodity	189.35	-0.05	+3.41	+7.50
CRB - Food	328.2	+1.27	-1.47	-2.03
Gold \$	1274.9	+0.79	-3.97	+20.08

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