## **Morning Comment**

AIB Treasury Economic Research Unit



Wednesday 22 May 2024 07:34 am

## Sterling on the front foot in early trading

It was another quiet day on financial markets yesterday, amid a light data schedule on both sides of the Atlantic. Against this backdrop, the S&P 500 rose by 0.3%. Meantime, the Euro Stoxx 50 declined by 0.5%. Elsewhere, oil prices fell by 1%, with Brent crude now back below \$83 per barrel.

Remarks from a number of central bank officials were in focus once again yesterday. ECB President Lagarde reiterated that a June rate cut was likely. In the US, Fed Governor Waller indicated that the next interest rate policy move is unlikely to be a hike, but more evidence that inflation is falling sustainably to 2% is needed before the Fed can cut rates. Fed officials Bostic and Mester also noted that more information will be needed before the Bank will cut rates.

On the currency front, the main FX pairs were confined to very narrow trading ranges yesterday. \$1.084-1.088 covered all the price action in EUR/USD, while EUR/GBP operated between the 85.3-85.5p corridor.

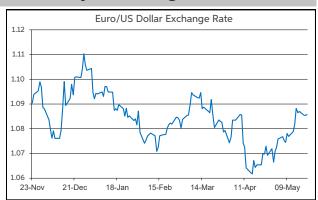
However, sterling has been on the front foot in early trading this morning, following the release of UK CPI inflation data for April. Both the headline and core rate printed above the consensus, falling to 2.3% (vs. 2.1% f'cast) and 3.9% (vs. 3.6% f'cast), owing to sticky core inflation. The sterling reaction sees EUR/GBP changing hands down near the 85p mark this morning. Elsewhere, GBP/USD is up at the midpoint of the \$1.27-1.28 range.

Looking to the remainder of today, the macro calendar remains muted. On the monetary policy front, the release of the latest Fed FOMC meeting minutes (after the close in Europe) will garner some attention. Remarks from central bank officials will also be in focus.

Daniel Noonan, Economist, AIB

Today's Opening FX Rates				
		% Change		
		Day *	End 2023	
EUR/USD	1.0857	0.00	-1.62	
EUR/GBP	0.8513	-0.33	-1.79	
GBP/USD	1.2749	0.31	0.16	
GBP/EUR	1.1738	0.33	1.82	
USD/JPY	156.44	0.01	10.90	
EUR/JPY	169.88	0.00	9.16	
* 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	5.38	5.44	5.59	5.43	5.03	4.52	
EUR	4.50	3.81	3.82	3.66	3.35	2.92	
GBP	5.25	5.19	5.18	5.02	4.77	4.23	









All rates quoted are indicative market rates

See Next Page For More Rates & Charts

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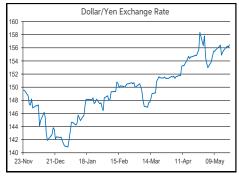
## **Opening Levels**



Euro				
EUR/GBP	0.8513			
EUR/USD	1.0857			
EUR/JPY	169.88			
EUR/SEK	11.6095			
EUR/DKK	7.461			
EUR/NOK	11.5867			
EUR/CHF	0.9904			
EUR/AUD	1.6297			
EUR/HKD	8.4729			
EUR/CAD	1.4819			

Sterling			
GBP/EUR	1.1738		
GBP/USD	1.2749		
GBP/CAD	1.7403		
GBP/NZD	2.0834		
GBP/JPY	199.43		
GBP/SEK	13.6304		
GBP/DKK	8.7597		
GBP/NOK	13.6069		
GBP/CHF	1.1631		
GBP/AUD	1.9143		

Dollar				
USD/JPY	156.44			
USD/CAD	1.3648			
USD/CHF	0.912			
USD/CNY	7.2389			
USD/BRL	5.1225			
USD/RUB	89.8225			
USD/INR	83.199			
AUD/USD	0.6659			
NZD/USD	0.6118			



US Swap Curve

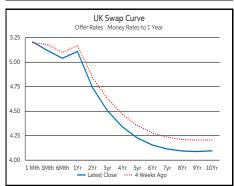
5.50

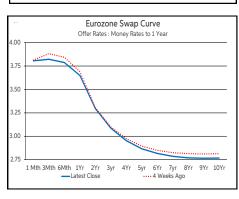
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4.75 4.50

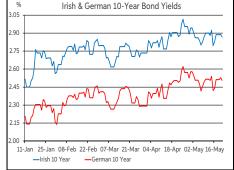
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1 Mth 3Mth 6Mth 1Yr 2Yr 3yr 4Yr 5yr 6Yr 7yr 8Yr 9Yr 10Yr
Latest Close ···· 4 Weeks Ago



	Debt	Markets				
			Change bps			
	Close	Day	4 Weeks	End 23		
10 Year Yield %						
US	4.41	-2	-18	+55		
Germany	2.51	-2	+0	+48		
UK	4.13	-4	-11	+60		
Ireland	2.89	-3	-2	+53		
Belgium	3.06	-1	+0	+37		
France	3.00	-2	-O	+44		
Italy	3.80	-1	-1	+10		
Spain	3.27	-1	-0	+28		
Portugal	3.15	-1	+1	+36		
Greece	3.49	-3	+4	+42		
5 Year Swap %						
US	4.44	-4	-19	+65		
Eurozone	2.87	-3	-2	+44		
UK	4.23	-3	-12	+58		
2 Year Swap %						
US	4.97	-4	-11	+63		
Eurozone	3.30	-3	-1	+50		
UK	4.74	-2	-10	+48		
10 Year Governme	nt Bond Spread	ls to Benchr	nark bps			
Ireland	38	-O	-2	+5		
Belgium	55	+2	-0	-11		
France	49	+0	-O	-4		
Italy	130	+1	-1	-38		
Spain	77	+1	-0	-20		
Portugal	64	+2	+1	-12		
Greece	99	-0	+4	-6		

Commodities					
		% Change			
	Close Day 4 Weeks End 23				
Brent Oil	82.88	-0.99	-6.27	+7.58	
West Texas Oil	71.65	-0.17	-1.90	-1.27	
Gold\$	2421.6	-0.14	+4.30	+17.41	

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