Morning Comment

AIB Treasury Economic Research Unit



Friday 18 October 2024 07:32 am

ECB cuts rates by 25bps

In line with market expectations, the ECB lowered official interest rates by 25bps yesterday. The decision was unanimous, and it marked the first time the ECB had cut rates at consecutive meetings in 13 years. At the post-meeting press conference President Lagarde emphasised that the ECB remains data dependent. However, the overarching tone of the meeting statement/press conference suggest that the ECB will cut rates again in December, unless inflation and activity data print to the upside of expectations.

In the initial aftermath of the policy announcement, the euro came under some downward pressure. During the aforementioned press conference the single currency lost further ground. Elsewhere on the currency front, the yen was on the back-foot, while the dollar was holding a slightly firmer tone. The dollar strength was on the back of strong retail sales data, with the headline measure rising by 0.4% in September (vs. +0.3% f'cast), while the control group metric increased by 0.7% (vs. +0.3% f'cast). However, the dollar handed back some of its gains overnight.

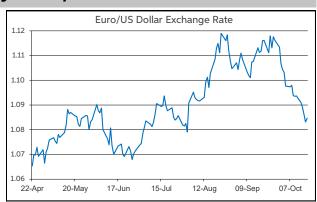
Already this morning, UK retail sales data for September have been released. Both the headline and core rates rose by 0.3%, well above the consensus for a fall of 0.3% in each metric. Sterling has been on the front foot in early trading following the release.

The firmer tone to sterling in early trading and the softer euro over the past 24 hours is evidenced by EUR/GBP operating back near to 83p. At the same time, EUR/USD opens this morning in the lower half of the \$1.08-1.09 range. Meanwhile, GBP/USD is changing hands in the top half of \$1.30-1.31, having spent the majority of yesterday in and around the \$1.30 handle. USD/JPY is up near the ¥150 mark. The remainder of today's calendar is relatively quite.

Daniel Noonan, Economist, AIB

Today's Opening FX Rates				
		% Change		
		Day *	End 2023	
EUR/USD	1.0847	-0.04	-1.71	
EUR/GBP	0.8303	-0.67	-4.21	
GBP/USD	1.3064	0.62	2.63	
GBP/EUR	1.2043	0.67	4.40	
USD/JPY	149.91	0.25	6.27	
EUR/JPY	162.62	0.20	4.49	
* 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	4.88	4.76	4.63	4.13	4.07	3.88
EUR	3.40	3.21	3.21	2.61	2.33	2.27
GBP	5.00	4.86	4.71	4.25	4.18	3.96









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	0.8303
EUR/USD	1.0847
EUR/JPY	162.62
EUR/SEK	11.4033
EUR/DKK	7.4581
EUR/NOK	11.8117
EUR/CHF	0.9391
EUR/AUD	1.6154
EUR/HKD	8.4268
EUR/CAD	1.4958

Sterling			
GBP/EUR	1.2043		
GBP/USD	1.3064		
GBP/CAD	1.8014		
GBP/NZD	2.1523		
GBP/JPY	195.84		
GBP/SEK	13.7323		
GBP/DKK	8.9821		
GBP/NOK	14.219		
GBP/CHF	1.131		
GBP/AUD	1.9454		

Dollar				
USD/JPY	149.91			
USD/CAD	1.3787			
USD/CHF	0.8657			
USD/CNY	7.1077			
USD/BRL	5.6537			
USD/RUB	97.1			
USD/INR	84.07			
AUD/USD	0.6712			
NZD/USD	0.6067			



US Swap Curve Offer Rates : Money Rates to 1 Year

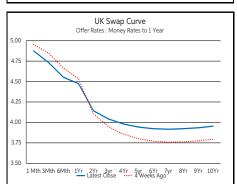
5.00

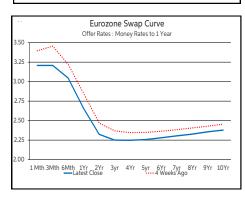
4.75 4.50

4.25 4.00

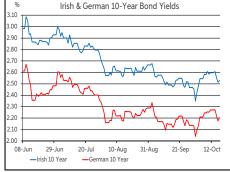
3.75







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



	Debt	Markets			
		Change bps			
	Close	Day	4 Weeks	End 23	
10 Year Yield %					
US	4.10	+8	+36	+24	
Germany	2.20	+2	+1	+17	
UK	4.09	+3	+20	+55	
Ireland	2.57	+2	-0	+20	
Belgium	2.79	+2	-O	+11	
France	2.94	+2	+1	+38	
Italy	3.41	-1	-15	-29	
Spain	2.91	+1	-9	-9	
Portugal	2.65	+1	-13	-13	
Greece	3.08	+0	-13	-0	
5 Year Swap %					
US	3.83	+6	+39	+4	
Eurozone	2.26	-1	-8	-17	
UK	3.94	+1	+15	+29	
2 Year Swap %					
US	4.02	+3	+41	-31	
Eurozone	2.33	-3	-14	-47	
UK	4.14	-1	+4	-12	
10 Year Governm	ent Bond Spread	s to Benchn	nark bps		
Ireland	36	-0	-1	+3	
Belgium	59	-0	-1	-7	
France	74	-0	-O	+21	
Italy	120	-3	-16	-47	
Spain	70	-2	-10	-26	
Portugal	45	-2	-14	-31	
Greece	87	-2	-14	-18	

Commodities					
		% Change			
	Close	Day	4 Weeks	End 23	
Brent Oil	74.45	+0.31	-0.57	-3.36	
West Texas Oil	71.65	-0.17	-1.90	-1.27	
Gold \$	2692.5	+0.72	+4.10	+30.54	

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