## **Morning Comment**

**AIB Treasury Economic Research Unit** 



Thursday 18 December 2025 06:52 am

## ECB & BoE monetary policy decisions today

The cautious tone to investor sentiment at the start of the week carried over into yesterday. Against this backdrop, the Euro Stoxx 50 fell by 0.6%. Meantime on Wall Street, the S&P 500 shed 1.2%, led by a decline in tech stocks. In terms of fixed income, German Bund and US Treasury yields were little changed. In contrast, UK Gilt yields moved 4-6bps lower, amid a sharper than anticipated fall in both headline and core inflation in November.

Elsewhere on the data front, the final reading of Eurozone HICP inflation indicated that the headline rate stood at just 2.1% in November, a touch below the flash estimate of 2.2%. The core rate remained at 2.4% for a third consecutive month, in-line with the flash reading. Meanwhile, the bellwether German Ifo business climate survey deteriorated slightly to 87.6 in December from 88.0.

Currency-wise, sterling has been under some downward pressure over the past 24 hours. The aforementioned drop in CPI has led to a modest softening in UK rate expectations, which has weighed slightly on the pound. At the same time, the yen has been on the defensive, albeit there was no obvious catalyst for the move.

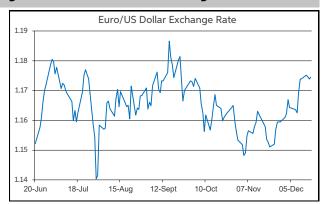
In level terms, EUR/GBP opens this morning in the top half of the 87-88p range. EUR/USD is operating near the midpoint of \$1.17-1.18. GBP/USD remains above the halfway mark of the \$1.33-1.34 band. USD/JPY is changing hands just below the ¥156 threshold.

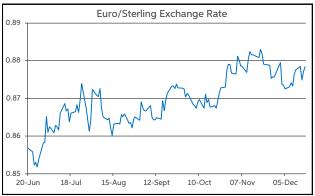
Turning to the day ahead, a number of central bank policy announcements are due. Most notably, the BoE is widely expected to cut rates by 25bps. Meantime, it is anticipated that the ECB will leave rates unchanged for a fourth successive meeting. However, the updated economic projections from the ECB will be in focus. Datawise, US CPI inflation for November and the latest weekly initial jobless claims figures, will be the highlight.

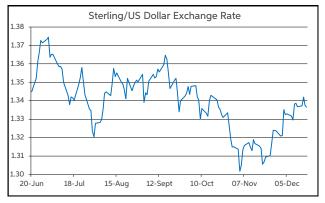
**Daniel Noonan, Economist, AIB** 

Today's Opening FX Rates				
		% Change		
		Day *	End 2024	
EUR/USD	1.1745	0.14	13.45	
EUR/GBP	0.8784	0.26	6.18	
GBP/USD	1.3366	-0.12	6.83	
GBP/EUR	1.1378	-0.26	-5.82	
USD/JPY	155.87	0.48	-0.83	
EUR/JPY	183.1	0.63	12.50	
* 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	3.63	3.74	3.68	3.43	3.57	3.69
EUR	2.00	1.94	2.06	2.19	2.28	2.59
GBP	4.00	3.73	3.70	3.53	3.73	3.91









## All rates quoted are indicative market rates

See Next Page For More Rates & Charts

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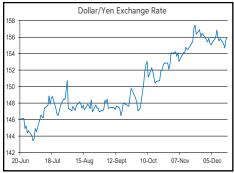
## **Opening Levels**



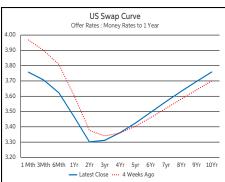
Euro	
EUR/GBP	0.8784
EUR/USD	1.1745
EUR/JPY	183.1
EUR/SEK	10.9093
EUR/DKK	7.4715
EUR/NOK	11.9779
EUR/CHF	0.9336
EUR/AUD	1.7771
EUR/HKD	9.137
EUR/CAD	1.6175

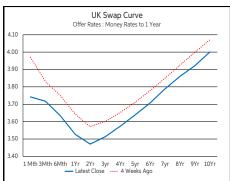
Sterling				
GBP/EUR	1.1378			
GBP/USD	1.3366			
GBP/CAD	1.8405			
GBP/NZD	2.3187			
GBP/JPY	208.36			
GBP/SEK	12.4166			
GBP/DKK	8.5035			
GBP/NOK	13.6339			
GBP/CHF	1.0624			
GBP/AUD	2.0225			

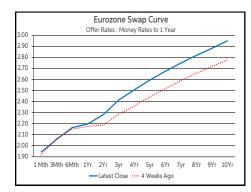
Dollar				
USD/JPY	155.87			
USD/CAD	1.3772			
USD/CHF	0.7949			
USD/CNY	7.041			
USD/BRL	5.52			
USD/RUB	80.3			
USD/INR	90.086			
AUD/USD	0.6607			
NZD/USD	0.5761			

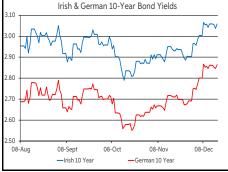












Debt Markets					
		Change bps			
	Close	Day	4 Weeks	End 24	
10 Year Yield %					
US	4.15	+0	+2	-43	
Germany	2.86	+2	+15	+50	
UK	4.48	-4	-12	-9	
Ireland	3.06	+2	+13	+41	
Belgium	3.35	+1	+10	+37	
France	3.57	+2	+11	+38	
Italy	3.53	+2	+8	+1	
Spain	3.30	+2	+9	+23	
Portugal	3.17	+1	+12	+32	
Greece	3.47	+1	+14	+22	
 5 Year Swap %					
US	3.67	+2	+4	-62	
Eurozone	2.58	+1	+15	+34	
UK	3.90	-5	-6	-39	
 2 Year Swap %					
US	3.56	-0	-5	-77	
Eurozone	2.28	-0	+9	+8	
UK	3.72	-7	-9	-76	
10 Year Governme	nt Bond Spread	s to Benchn	 nark bps		
Ireland	19	+0	-3	-9	
Belgium	49	-O	-5	-13	
France	71	+0	-4	-12	
Italy	66	+0	-7	-49	
Spain	43	-0	-6	-27	
Portugal	30	-0	-4	-18	
Greece	61	-1	-2	-28	

Commodities					
		% Change			
	Close Day 4 Weeks End 24				
Brent Oil	59.68	+1.29	-6.03	-20.04	
West Texas Oil	71.65	-0.17	-1.90	-1.27	
Gold \$	4340.8	+0.87	+6.38	+65.44	

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