Morning Comment

AIB Treasury Economic Research Unit



Wednesday 26 November 2025 07:55 am

UK Budget in focus today

The more positive mood on markets persisted yesterday. The Euro Stoxx 50 rose by 0.8%. Meantime, the S&P 500 rallied late on to register a solid 0.9% gain, despite some weak US consumer/labour market data weighing on sentiment early on. On bond markets, benchmark sovereign yields declined by 1-3bps across the board.

US retail sales rose by just 0.2% in September (vs. +0.4% f'cast), while the control group measure of sales (a key core sales metric), unexpectedly contracted by 0.1% in the month. At the same time, the Conference Board survey of US consumer confidence deteriorated to 88.7 in November (vs. 93.3 f'cast). The index is now at its lowest level since April. Meanwhile, the new ADP Pulse Survey - which has garnered increasing levels of attention recently due to the lack of official labour market data - indicated that the US economy shed 13.5k private jobs on average per week up to the start of November.

Currency-wise, the dollar was under some downward pressure following the release of the data. The greenback fell by around 0.5% against the euro and sterling. Elsewhere, there was a slightly firmer tone to sterling yesterday, albeit the pound handed back most of its gains overnight.

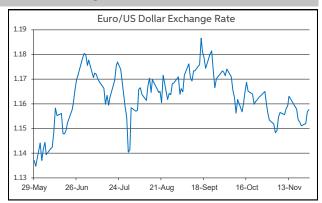
In level terms, this sees EUR/USD open this morning up in the top half of the \$1.15-1.16 range. GBP/USD is operating in the upper regions of the \$1.31-1.32 band. USD/JPY is below the midpoint of ¥156-157. EUR/GBP is changing hands just below the 88p mark.

Today, the main focus will be on the UK Budget. Expectations are that the Chancellor will opt to make a number of minor tax rises to boost the fiscal headroom for next year. However, income tax increases are no longer anticipated. The OBR forecasts on the fiscal/economic outlook will also garner close attention. The Budget poses some event risk for sterling.

Daniel Noonan, Economist, AIB

Today's Opening FX Rates				
		% Change		
		Day *	End 2024	
EUR/USD	1.1575	0.51	11.80	
EUR/GBP	0.879	0.02	6.25	
GBP/USD	1.3163	0.48	5.21	
GBP/EUR	1.1371	-0.02	-5.88	
USD/JPY	156.42	-0.20	-0.48	
EUR/JPY	181.06	0.30	11.25	
* v Previous Day's European Open				
See Next Page for More Rates				

Opening Interest Rates						
		Money Market		Swap Rates		5
	Base Rate	1-Mth	3-Mth	1-Yr	2-Yr	5-Yr
USD	3.88	3.87	3.78	3.49	3.53	3.55
EUR	2.00	1.91	2.06	2.13	2.17	2.41
GBP	4.00	3.89	3.80	3.60	3.78	3.90









All rates quoted are indicative market rates

See Next Page For More Rates & Charts

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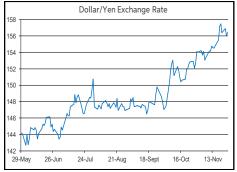
Opening Levels



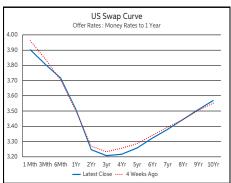
Euro	
EUR/GBP	0.879
EUR/USD	1.1575
EUR/JPY	181.06
EUR/SEK	11.0279
EUR/DKK	7.4683
EUR/NOK	11.8305
EUR/CHF	0.9327
EUR/AUD	1.782
EUR/HKD	9.0021
EUR/CAD	1.6291

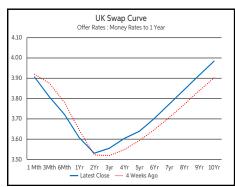
Sterling				
GBP/EUR	1.1371			
GBP/USD	1.3163			
GBP/CAD	1.8524			
GBP/NZD	2.3195			
GBP/JPY	205.91			
GBP/SEK	12.5422			
GBP/DKK	8.4944			
GBP/NOK	13.4563			
GBP/CHF	1.0606			
GBP/AUD	2.026			

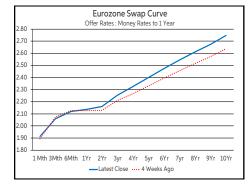
Dollar					
USD/JPY	156.42				
USD/CAD	1.4072				
USD/CHF	0.8057				
USD/CNY	7.0808				
USD/BRL	5.3825				
USD/RUB	78.75				
USD/INR	89.265				
AUD/USD	0.6494				
NZD/USD	0.5673				

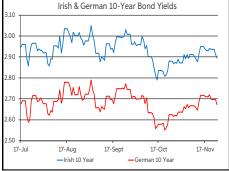












	Debt	Markets		
		Change bps		
	Close	Day	4 Weeks	End 24
10 Year Yield %				
US	4.00	-3	+2	-58
Germany	2.67	-2	+5	+31
UK	4.50	-4	+9	-8
Ireland	2.90	-2	+2	+25
Belgium	3.19	-3	+1	+20
France	3.41	-4	-1	+22
Italy	3.40	-4	+0	-12
Spain	3.17	-3	+2	+10
Portugal	3.01	-4	+0	+16
Greece	3.29	-4	+0	+4
5 Year Swap %				
US	3.52	-2	-1	-77
Eurozone	2.38	-1	+6	+15
UK	3.89	-4	+5	-39
2 Year Swap %				
US	3.52	-2	+0	-82
Eurozone	2.15	-O	+3	-4
UK	3.77	-3	+0	-72
10 Year Governn	nent Bond Spre	ads to Ben	chmark bps	
Ireland	22	+1	-3	-6
Belgium	51	-1	-4	-10
France	74	-1	-6	-9
Italy	73	-1	-5	-43
Spain	49	-1	-3	-21
Portugal	34	-1	-5	-15
Greece	62	-1	-5	-27

Commodities							
		% Change					
	Close	Close Day 4 Weeks End 24					
Brent Oil	62.48	-1.40	-2.98	-16.29			
West Texas Oil	71.65	-0.17	-1.90	-1.27			
Gold \$	4130.0	-0.22	+4.51	+57.40			

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