

Friday 23 September 2022

CURRENCIES	Spot	6mths
NZD/USD	0.5848	0.0008
NZD/AUD	0.8797	-0.0022
NZD/JPY	83.26	-1.77
NZD/EUR	0.5944	-0.0072
NZD/GBP	0.5192	-0.0016
NZD/CNH	4.1397	-0.0236
AUD/USD	0.6647	0.0025
AUD/EUR	0.6753	-0.0065
EUR/USD	0.9839	0.0135
USD/CNH	7.0786	-0.0504
GBP/USD	1.1260	0.0050
EUR/GBP	0.8736	0.0079
INT RATES	NZ	Australia
OCR/Cash	3.00%	2.35%
90 day bills	3.77%	2.93%
2 year swap	4.52%	3.91%
10 year Govt	4.09%	3.75%

## The nuclear option

We saw it all last night — rate rises, intervention, and further weakness in risk assets!

First up, the central banks, with the BoE raising its key interest rate by 50bps to reach 2.25% in what was its 7th consecutive rate hike, this pushed UK borrowing costs to the highest levels since 2008! The Swiss National Bank was even more aggressive, raising interest rates by 75bps, and into positive territory for the first time since 2015, to 0.50% seeing the CHF weaken. The Norwegian central

bank also raised its cash rate by 50bps and signalled another hike will likely be delivered in November.

Finally, the BoJ maintained its ultra-low interest rate strategy and left its interest rates unchanged, as was expected. This saw the USD/JPY surge pass the 145.00 level to eventually top out at 145.90, a 24-year low for the JPY! Japan's top currency diplomat, Masato Kanda, reiterated his warnings about FX intervention, which the BoJ duly acted upon as the Japanese authorities intervened to support the yen for the first time since 1998! The USD/JPY retreated to the 142.40 handle, and the NZD/JPY and the AUD/JPY also retreated to 83.25 and 94.65, respectively.

In attempting to maintain their cash rate at -0.10%, and the 10-year JGB yield at a maximum of 0.25%, the Japanese authorities intervening in the currency markets to strengthen the JPY signals was a counter-productive monetary policy! Currency intervention by itself will not work as the interest rate differential between the US and Japan remains and is widening! However, don't worry, there is good news — the BoJ will spend billions defending the JPY before they eventually amend their interest rate strategy, and the banks will make a fortune before they eventually capitulate!

With central bankers acting aggressively and intervening to support their currencies, what did this actually mean? Well, the equity markets remain under pressure with European bourses off 0.10%-0.50% lower, while the US exchanges are also in negative territory, they are rallying into the close.

Once again, investors are fretting over the implication of tighter global monetary policy on global growth. Treasury yields are also continuing to rally with the US 2-year yield up 8bps to 4.12%, while the 10-years rocketed past the 3.50% level surging 17bps to 3.70%. Interestingly, the NZ and US 2-year swap pricing is aligning with both trading in the low 4.50%'s, although the AU 2-year IRS will open around the 4.00% level. The US dollar has managed to maintain a positive performance on the day, which is a little surprising given the intervention, although the NZD and AUD have recovered a touch from their 0.5803 and 0.6574 lows!

In other news, ECB executive board member, Isabel Schnabel announced, "In the short-term, inflation could rise even further despite the rate hikes. A German recession may be unavoidable," while Goldman Sachs announced that the new, hyper-aggressive FOMC "need to see the unemployment rate move to 5-6% to be confident that inflation will move lower" which, in their analyst, puts "the S&P 500 in the 2900-3375 range."

Finally, and in possibly the most disappointing news, the NZ trade deficit surged in August by NZD-2.4 billion to reach NZD-12.2 billion on the year.











EV	Spot	FECs (mid)					Spot Mid	
FX	Mid	1mth	3mths	6mths	12mths		NZD/	AUD/
NZTWI	68.90					CAD	0.7884	0.8963
NZD/USD	0.5848	0.0000	0.0001	0.0008	0.0023	CHF	0.5711	0.6492
NZD/AUD	0.8797	-0.0005	-0.0012	-0.0022	-0.0031	CNY	4.1287	4.6918
NZD/JPY	83.26	-0.24	-0.80	-1.77	-3.75	DKK	4.4187	5.0225
NZD/EUR	0.5944	-0.0014	-0.0039	-0.0072	-0.0125	FJD	1.3264	1.5076
NZD/GBP	0.5192	-0.0005	-0.0012	-0.0016	-0.0012	HKD	4.5903	5.2174
						KRW	821.26	933.47
AU TWI	62.40					MYR	2.6696	3.0344
AUD/USD	0.6813	0.0003	0.0011	0.0025	0.0037	NOK	6.0803	6.9110
AUD/NZD	0.6535	0.0005	0.0014	0.0024	0.0019	SEK	6.4689	7.3527
AUD/JPY	94.65	-0.22	-0.78	-1.81	-4.04	SGD	0.8292	0.9425
AUD/EUR	0.6753	-0.0012	-0.0035	-0.0065	-0.0128	TWD	18.49	21.01
AUD/GBP	0.5901	-0.0002	-0.0006	-0.0004	0.0004	ZAR	10.28	11.69
USD Index	111.23					EQUITIES		
EUR/USD	0.9839	0.0021	0.0065	0.0135	0.0233			Index
USD/JPY	142.34	-0.40	-1.39	-3.25	-6.88	NZX50		11,518
GBP/USD	1.1260	0.0009	0.0023	0.0050	0.0050	ASX200		6,700
EUR/GBP	0.8736	0.0012	0.0036	0.0079	0.0167	Dow Jo	nes	30,219
						S&P 50	0	3,780
INTEREST		New Zealand		Australia		FTSE100		7,160
RATES			Mid		Mid	DAX 30	)	12,532
						Nikkei		27,154
30 day bank b	<b>30 day bank bills</b> 3.40%		3.40%	2.55%				
90 day bank b	0 day bank bills 3.779		3.77%	2.93%		COMMODITIES		
1 year swap			4.43%		3.77%			USD
2 year swap			4.52%		3.91%	Brent C	Crude	90.41
3 year swap		4.42%		3.89%		Gold		1,671.80
5 year swap		4.26%		3.96%		Silver		19.62
10 year swap			4.19%		4.16%	Iron Ore		98.65
3 year Govt bond		4.06%			3.44%	CRB Index		298.16
5 year Govt bond			4.03%		3.55%			NZD
10 year Govt l	Govt bond 4.09%		4.09%		3.75%	NZ Carbon 81.		81.75

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