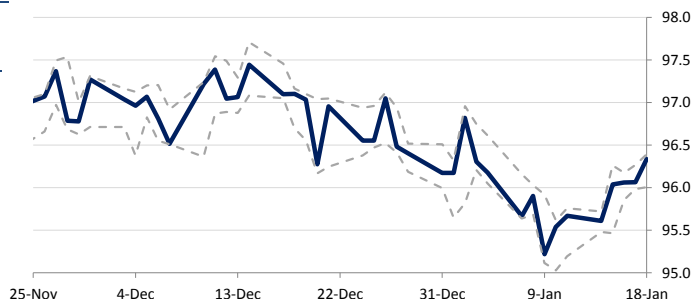


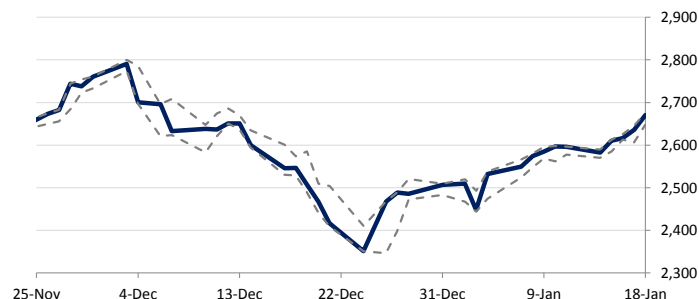
#### Highlights in the Foreign Exchange Market:

- Global stocks jumped to their highest levels in more than a month on Friday after a Wall Street Journal report suggested progress was being made to resolve the trade dispute between the United States and China. US stocks rose around 0.6% even after the report was denied. Both the S&P 500 and the Dow Jones Industrial Average were up about 2.9% from last week. This implies that traders believed there was a degree of credibility to the report. MSCI's broadest index of Asia-Pacific shares outside Japan added 0.75% while the Shanghai Composite index was up 1.4%. European stocks also followed to their highest since early December, with the pan-European STOXX 600 index up over 1%. The US dollar rose slightly on the growing optimism of progress in trade dispute.
- The US governmental shutdown is now on its fourth week as the standoff between President Donald Trump and Democrats over the \$5.7bn funding for the Mexican border wall continues. While previous shutdown periods have had little impact on the economy in the long run, worries have persisted given that there is currently no end in sight. The US government has furloughed 325,000 federal employees in what is now the longest shut down in history.
- British inflation fell to its lowest level in two years in December as fuel prices dropped, leaving the Bank of England under no pressure to carry on raising interest rates as uncertainty over Brexit dominates the economic outlook. Consumer prices rose at an annual rate of 2.1% in December, slowing from 2.3% in November, in line with economist expectations. The rise was also the smallest since January 2017.

US Dollar Index  
2-Month Performance



S&P 500  
2-Month Performance



#### Chart Points and Other Technical Input

CCY	2nd Support	1st Support	Spot	1st Resistance	2nd Resistance
EUR	1.1212	1.1300	1.1368	1.1490	1.1570
GBP	1.2710	1.2815	1.2880	1.2995	1.3080
JPY	107.75	108.70	109.76	110.50	111.40
CHF	0.9790	0.9870	0.9955	1.0010	1.0090

#### Major Currencies

CCY	Closing Rate	YTD %	CCY	Closing Rate	YTD %
EUR/USD	1.1361	(0.88)	EUR/GBP	0.8823	(1.78)
GBP/USD	1.2873	0.96	GBP/JPY	141.29	0.89
USD/JPY	109.76	(0.45)	EUR/JPY	124.72	(1.20)
USD/CHF	0.9955	1.44	EUR/CHF	1.1310	0.50

#### Major Crosses

#### Brief Technical Commentary

EUR/USD: The pair moved down to the 1.1350 level during Friday's trading session and closed the week at 1.1368. EUR/USD Support is at (1.1212-1.1300) any break below would take the pair to 1.1140. Short term and medium term outlook are Neutral.

USD/JPY: The pair moved up to the 109.88 level during Friday's trading session and closed the week at 109.76. USD/JPY Support is at (107.75-108.70) any break below targets 106.60. Short term and medium term outlook are Neutral.

#### Local & Global Rates

CCY	1-Week	1-Month	3-Month	6-Month	1-Year
KWD	1.94	2.25	2.50	2.75	3.00
USD	2.41	2.51	2.76	2.85	3.03
EUR	-0.44	-0.42	-0.34	-0.30	-0.18
GBP	0.70	0.73	0.93	1.03	1.17
CHF	-0.81	-0.77	-0.70	-0.64	-0.51
AUD	1.80	2.02	2.18	2.26	2.25

#### Economic Events

Date	Country	Event	Actual	Forecast	Previous
20-Jan-19	CNY	GDP q/y		6.4%	6.5%
22-Jan-19	GBP	Average Earnings Index 3m/y		3.3%	3.3%
22-Jan-19	NZD	CPI q/q		0.0%	0.9%
22-Jan-19	JPY	BOJ Outlook Report			
22-Jan-19	JPY	Monetary Policy Statement			
23-Jan-19	CAD	Core Retail Sales m/m			0.0%
23-Jan-19	AUD	Unemployment Rate		5.1%	5.1%
24-Jan-19	EUR	Main Refinancing Rate		0.00%	0.00%
24-Jan-19	EUR	ECB Press Conference			
25-Jan-19	EUR	German Ifo Business Climate		100.7	101.0

#### Government Yields

Country	1-Year	2-Year	5-Year	10-Year	30-Year
United States	2.59	2.61	2.62	2.79	3.10
Germany	-0.61	-0.61	-0.30	0.26	0.86
United Kingdom	0.75	0.80	0.97	1.35	1.86
Japan	-0.19	-0.17	-0.18	0.01	0.69

#### Commodities

Index	Last Price	% Change	Index	Last Price	% Change
Kuwait Oil	61.46	0.64	Dow Jones	24,706.35	1.38
Brent	62.23	(0.03)	Nikkei 225	20,666.07	1.29
West Texas	53.55	(0.19)	S&P 500	2,670.71	1.32
Gold	1,280.95	(0.81)	KuwaitSE	5,256.52	0.13

All information has been sourced from Reuters.

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