

## **London Borough of Barking Council**

Brähler ICS UK Limited working with AV installation specialists Owl Video have completed a stylish and state of the art refurbishment of the facilities in the main council chamber at Barking town hall in London. In order too bring the chamber up to 21<sup>st</sup> Century standards Brähler supplied a flush mounted and custom designed microphone management and electronic voting system built around their reliable stalwart CDS-200 conference management system coupled with the power of CDS-VAN virtual audio network.

Because of the nature of the chamber Brähler needed to provide different custom solutions for councillors in different seating positions around the hall, combining forty-five single and five dual flush mounted units as well as a Mayoral position and a public gallery question point on the balcony. The units all housed their own speakers and utilised smart card technology to give the councillors their microphone and voting privileges.

The CDS-200 muting software was used to great effect in improving the gain before feedback of the system and because each unit has its own loudspeaker the sound was lifted and distributed very evenly around the chamber. As a further feature Braille characters below each button were also included to assist any councillors with visual impairment.

The CDS-VAN software is used to combine audio sources including radio mics, a DVD player, a VHS player and audio from any further computer sources added to the system. CDS-VAN distributes the processed audio back to all the councillors units as well as to the zoned room PA and an induction loop for the hard of hearing. The council now has the option to record to hard-disk any meeting in the chamber or to send the audio out by web-stream. As CDS-VAN is software based it will always be possible to add new features as they become available and far more cost effectively than buying racks of additional processing.

Mark Wiltshire of Brähler ICS said, “I would like to thank Owl video for a very professional installation, the Brähler system is at the hub of a knock-out fully integrated solution, fully meeting the needs of Barking Council now and I am sure, well into the future.”



