



1 Stunning view of the finished Clubhouse looking southwest from the beach. 2 Rear of the Clubhouse by night. 3 Inside the new gear storage shed
4 Life Saving Club Exterior

Sumner Surf Life Saving Club Clubhouse Rebuild

Project Location: Christchurch

Aurecon NZ for Sumner Surf Life Saving Club

Disciplines: Multi-Discipline



Following the Canterbury Earthquake of February 2011 the Sumner Surf Life Saving Club's (the Club) clubhouse was damaged beyond repair. The clubhouse provided an invaluable community facility acting as the base for the volunteer lifeguards whom safeguard Sumner beach in the busy summer months; and acting as a vital hub for local community groups and residents – sixty years of community service, lost in rubble.

Faced with multiple site hazards the Christchurch City Council (CCC) proposed relocating the clubhouse to a new location off the beach. However the new location would have resulted in a considerable loss of function for the Club and significantly hampered the ability to actively patrol Sumner Beach. Aurecon was able to provide innovative engineering solutions that allowed the original site to be reused, the CCC to collocate new facilities as a project partner, and the project to be accelerated, ready for the 2016/17 summer patrols.

The new facility, a beacon for sea safety, is a true representation of what is possible when a consultancy firm partners with a community organisation to achieve the best possible outcome. This striking building is a display of Aurecon's synchronised skillset, coming together to provide consultancy solutions from planning and urban design through to engineering design and construction supervision. The subtlety of its presence as well as its innovative and cost effective 'world first' solution for creating the 'sleeping defence' foundation feature, demonstrates the understanding of the client's needs, but also the need to provide an appropriate response to suit the highly sensitive environment.

Judging & Copyright Statement

This project is a Finalist entry in the 2016 INNOVATE NZ Awards of Excellence competition. The winners will be announced on Friday 2 September, 2016.

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