



Te Ohu Whakawhanake o Te Tai Poutini



DEVELOPMENT WEST COAST UPDATE

MAY 2026

HISTORY

ABOUT DWC



Establishment of DWC

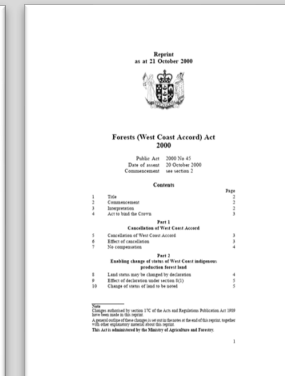
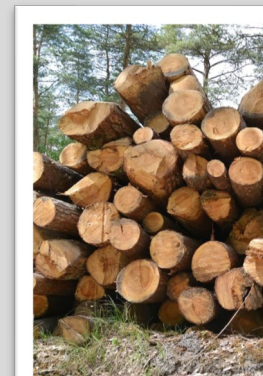
- DWC was established in 2001 with a \$92 million settlement to support the region's "adjustment" to this change (not compensation).

Economic Adjustment Support

- Settlement was designed to support the region's transition following job losses in the timber industry, and the wider impacts on businesses and the local economy.

Council Funding

- Four West Coast Councils each received \$7 million for economic development functions.



PURPOSE

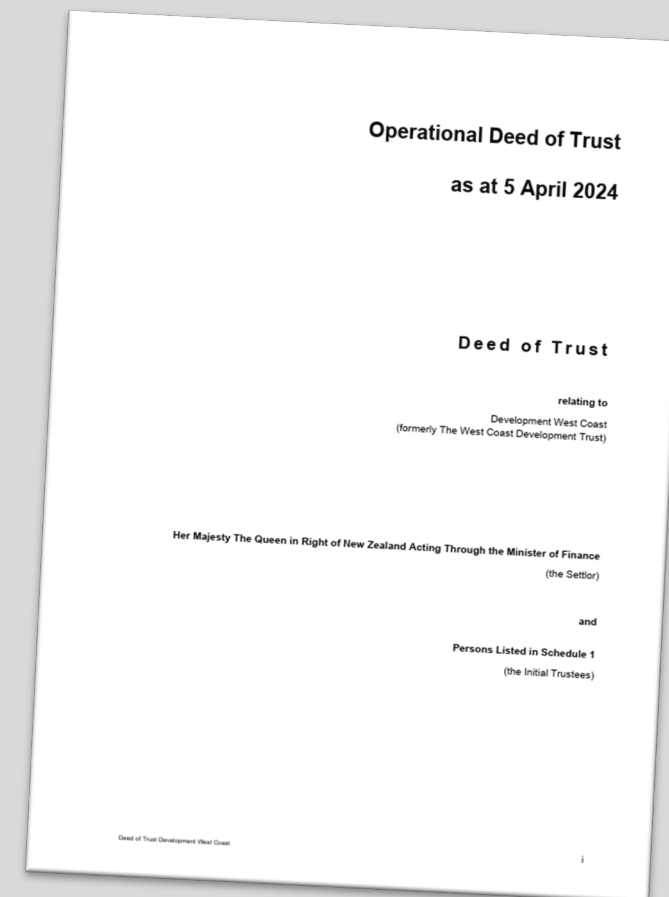
ABOUT DWC



Te Ohu Whakawhanake o Te Tai Poutini

Defined Objects – Clause 4.1 of the Deed

- Promote sustainable employment opportunities in the West Coast region;
- Promote Sustainable economic benefits for the West Coast region;
- Support projects which are not the ordinary day-to-day running, maintenance and upgrade of the infrastructure that is normally the responsibility of local authorities and central government



PURPOSE

ABOUT DWC



Te Ohu Whakawhanake o Te Tai Poutini

Intergenerational Fund

- To benefit current and future generations of West Coasters.

Tax Exempt Status and Charities Registration

- Retaining Status is critical – must comply with the Objects to meet this test
- Any private benefit to a recipient must be incidental to the wider benefits to the region
- Significant financial impact if charitable registration / tax exempt status lost



REGIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

ABOUT DWC



Tai Poutini West Coast Growth Study (2016)

- Economic development functions on the West Coast were fragmented and that this was a major impediment to economic development.

West Coast Economic Development Action Plan (2017)

- Economic development and tourism functions consolidated under DWC.

Te Whanaketanga 2050 Strategy (2022)

- New economic strategy with regional input.
- Representation on steering group from council CE's, industry, Iwi, Govt agencies.



TE WHANAKETANGA 2050 STRATEGY

MISSIONS

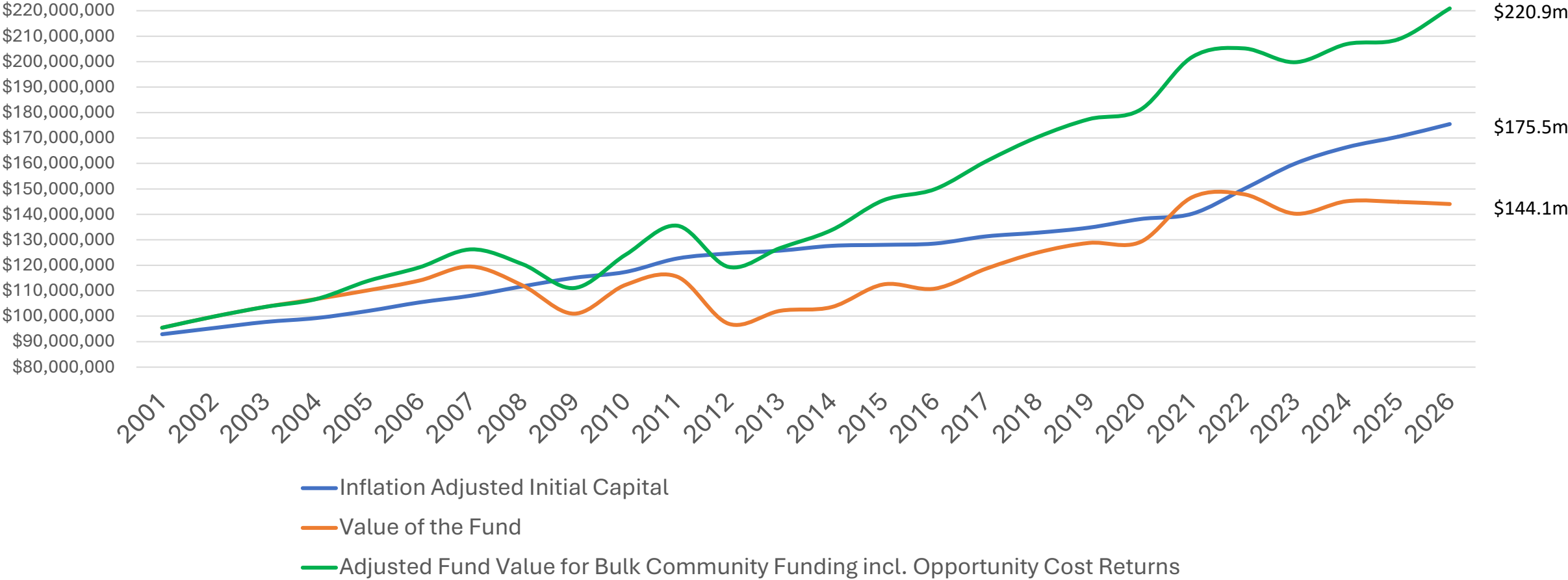


Te Ohu Whakawhanake o Te Tai Poutini

	Mission	Programme Stream	Priority Project Stream
TE WHĀINGA TUATAHI MISSION ONE	Build Confidence		Enhance the regional story
TE WHĀINGA TUARUA MISSION TWO	Diversify our Economy	Managing natural resources Circular economies	- Conservation - Renewable energy solutions - Research, science and technology - Engineering and innovation - Food and fibre optimisation
TE WHĀINGA TUATORU MISSION THREE	Strengthen our Communities		- Housing - Healthcare - Community and business education - Infrastructure and digital connectivity - Resilience

INTERGENERATIONAL FUND

INFLATION ADJUSTED INITIAL CAPITAL



INVESTING IN THE REGION

2001-2025

Original Equity
of the Fund 2001

\$92m

Commercial
Distributions

\$132.9m

+

Community
Distributions
and projects

\$87.7m

=

Directly
invested into
the economy

\$220.6m

\$

Current Equity
March 2026

\$144.1m



COMMERCIAL DISTRIBUTIONS

DWC UPDATE



Te Ohu Whakawhanake o Te Tai Poutini

- Equity investments
- Workforce housing initiatives
- Startup business investments
- Local manufacturing expansion



DISTRIBUTIONS APPROVED

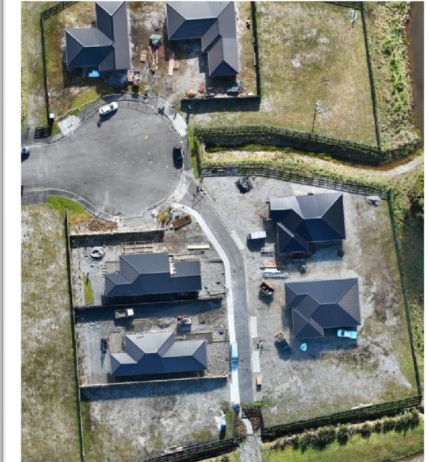
\$9.63m

2025/26
financial year

** Preliminary numbers*

COMMITTED SINCE 2001

\$132.9m



WEST COAST COMMUNITY TRUST

DWC UPDATE



- 21 projects received DWC funding via the WCCT during 2025, including:
 - Barrytown Settlers Hall
 - Grey District Pony Club
 - Grey Valley Rugby Football Club
 - Lake Brunner Districts Fund Raising Committee
 - Lake Brunner Wilderness Trail Charitable Trust
 - Runanga Community Trust



ANNUAL CONTRIBUTION
\$200k

SINCE 2001
\$1.75m



DEVELOPMENT & BUSINESS SUPPORT

DWC UPDATE



Te Ohu Whakawhanake o Te Tai Poutini

- Regional Business Partner Network
- Business workshops, events, & programmes
- DWC Tertiary Scholarships
- Actively managed clients (last 12 months): 348



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

\$1.22m

2025/26
financial year

** Preliminary numbers*



TOURISM & DESTINATION MANAGEMENT

DWC UPDATE



Te Ohu Whakawhanake o Te Tai Poutini

- Tourism tradeshows: *engaged 1,500+ agents*
- Famils: *hosted 235 agents*
- Campaigns: *West Coast: We like it!*
- Events: *TRENZ, Real West, Tourism Summit, Lunch & Learn sessions*
- Government Funding: *Regional Tourism Boost Fund, Regional Events Fund*
- DMP Reference Group: *Grey representation*



TOURISM & DESTINATION MANAGEMENT

\$1.34m

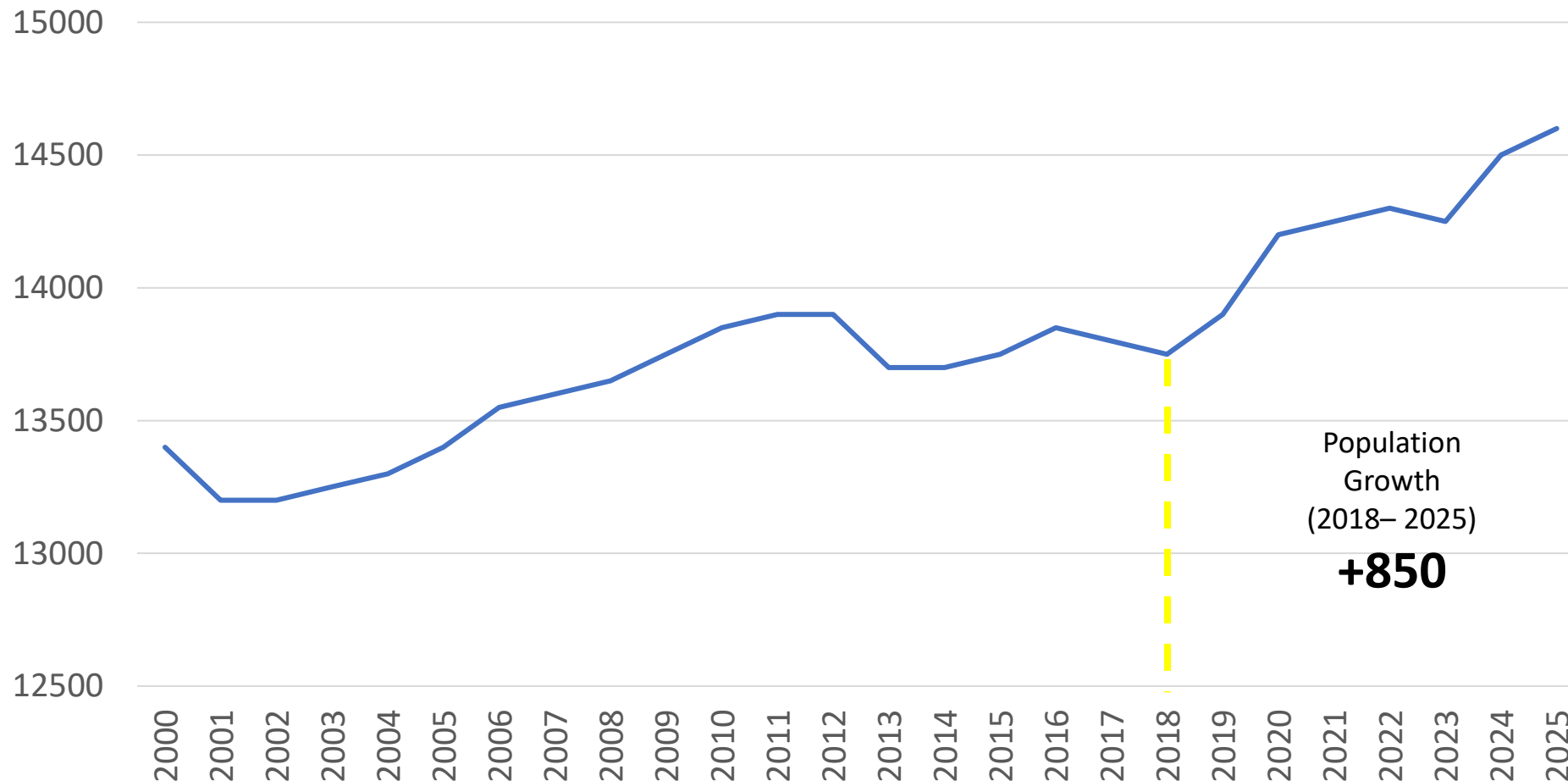
2025/26
financial year

** Preliminary numbers*



GREY DISTRICT POPULATION (2000 - 2025)

ECONOMIC UPDATE



POPULATION
14,600

GROWTH
+100

YE JUNE 2025

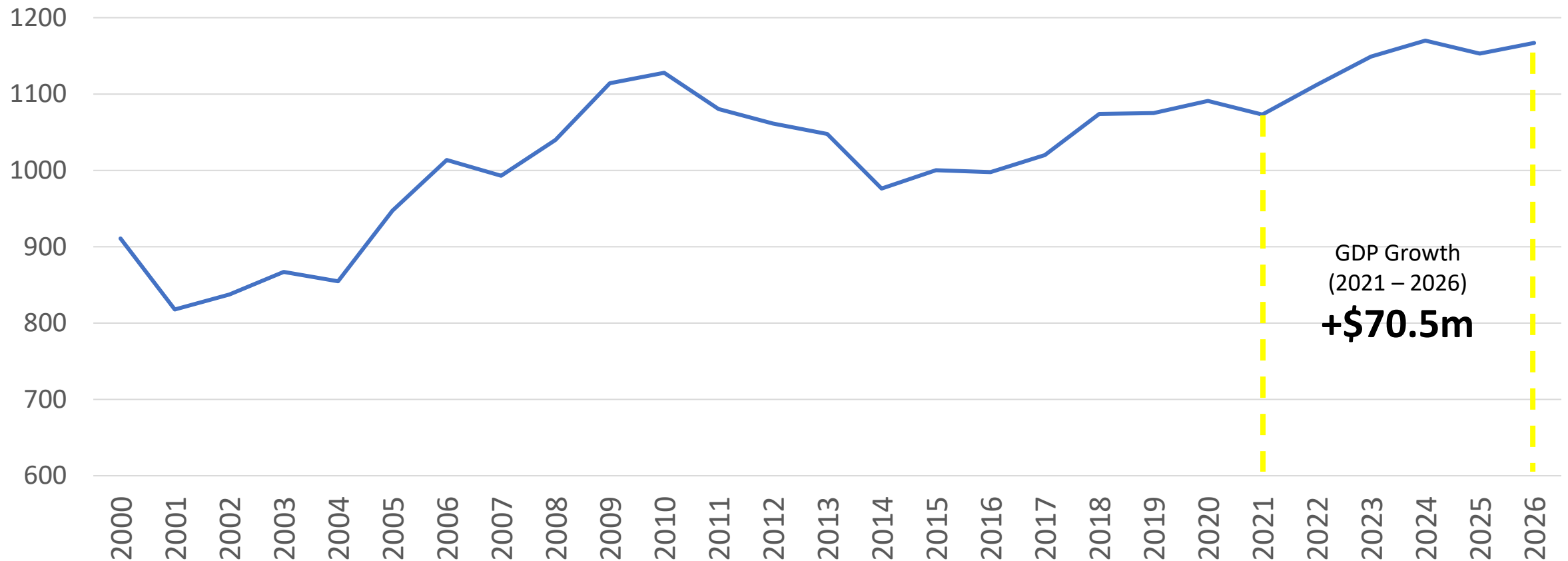
Population
Growth
(2018– 2025)
+850

GREY DISTRICT GDP (2000 – 2026)

ECONOMIC UPDATE



Te Ohu Whakawhanake o Te Tai Poutini

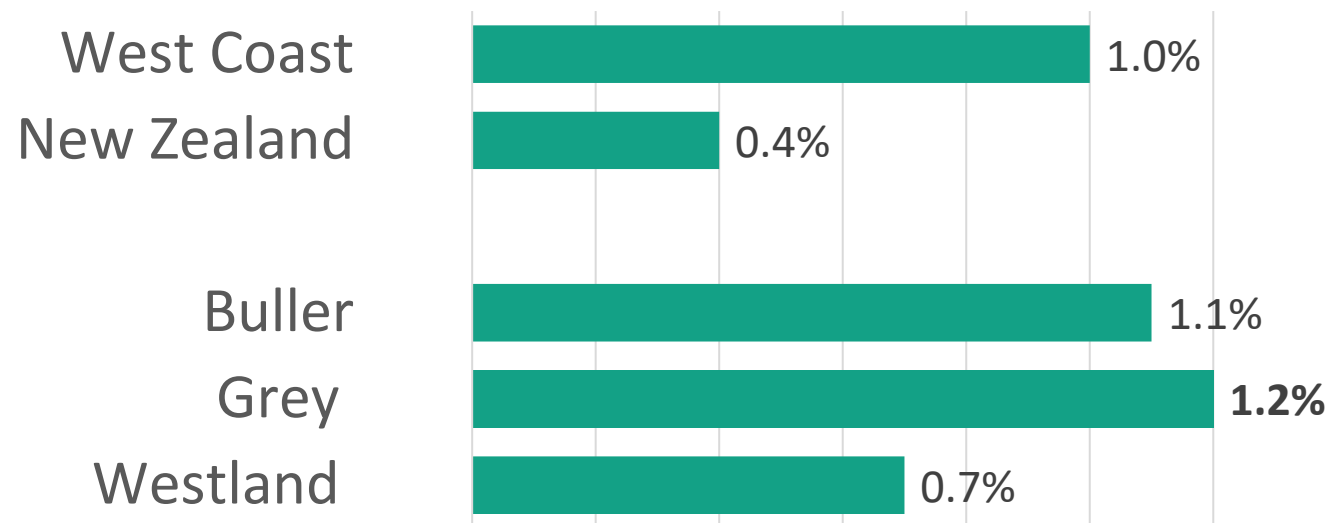


Source Infometrics

GREY DISTRICT GDP GROWTH

ECONOMIC UPDATE

GDP Growth YE MARCH 2026



Source: Infometrics

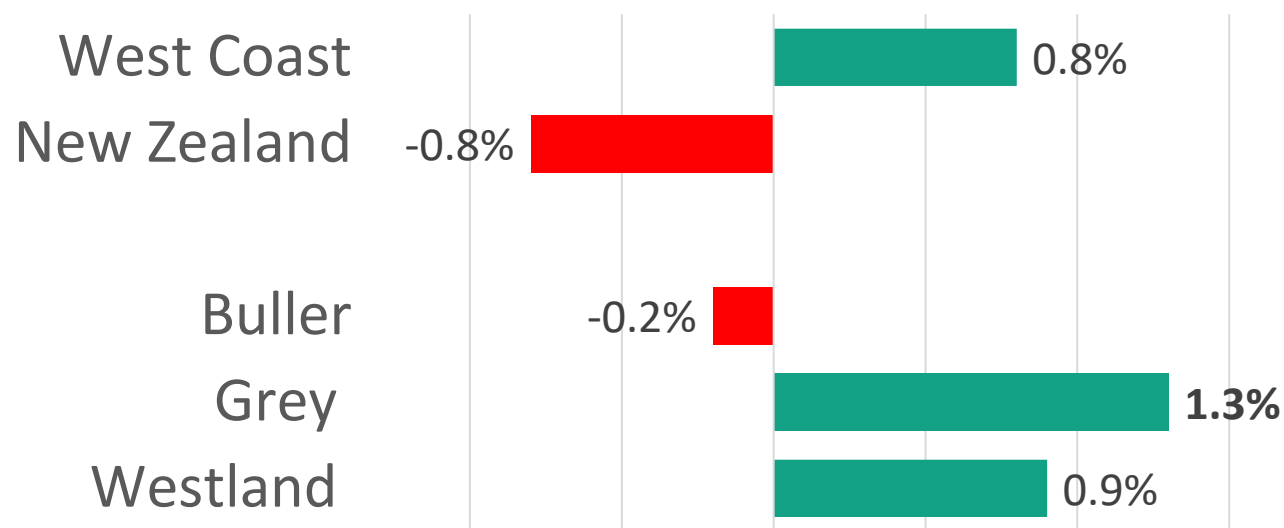
GDP (GREY)
\$1,167m

INCREASE
+\$14m

GREY DISTRICT EMPLOYMENT GROWTH

ECONOMIC UPDATE

Employment Growth YE MARCH 2026



Source: Infometrics

TOTAL JOBS (GREY)

6,367

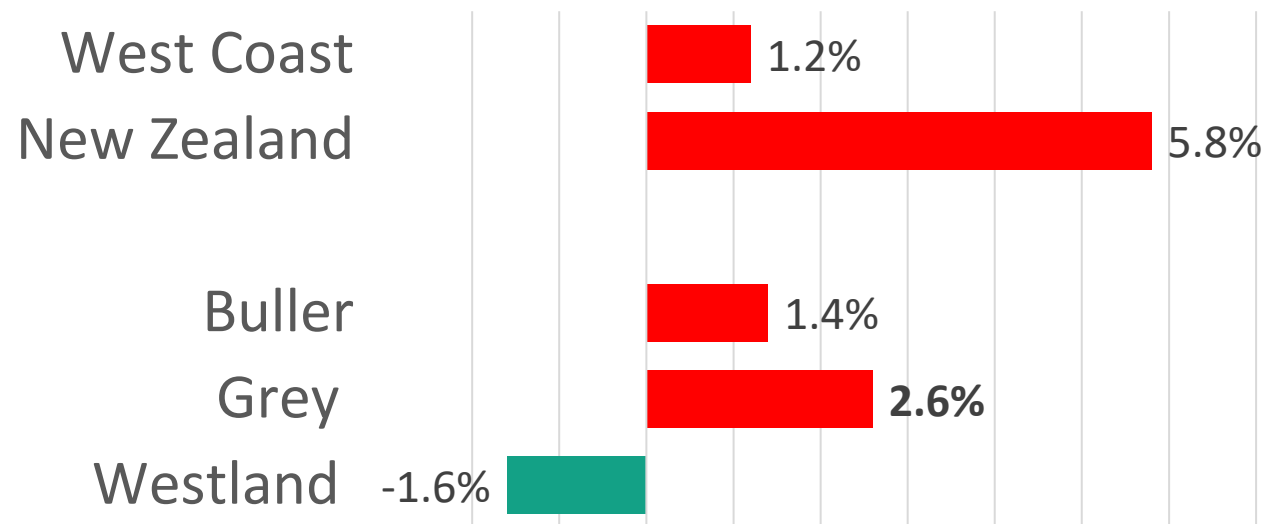
NEW JOBS

+91

GREY DISTRICT UNEMPLOYMENT

ECONOMIC UPDATE

Jobseeker Recipients Growth YE MARCH 2026



Source: Infometrics

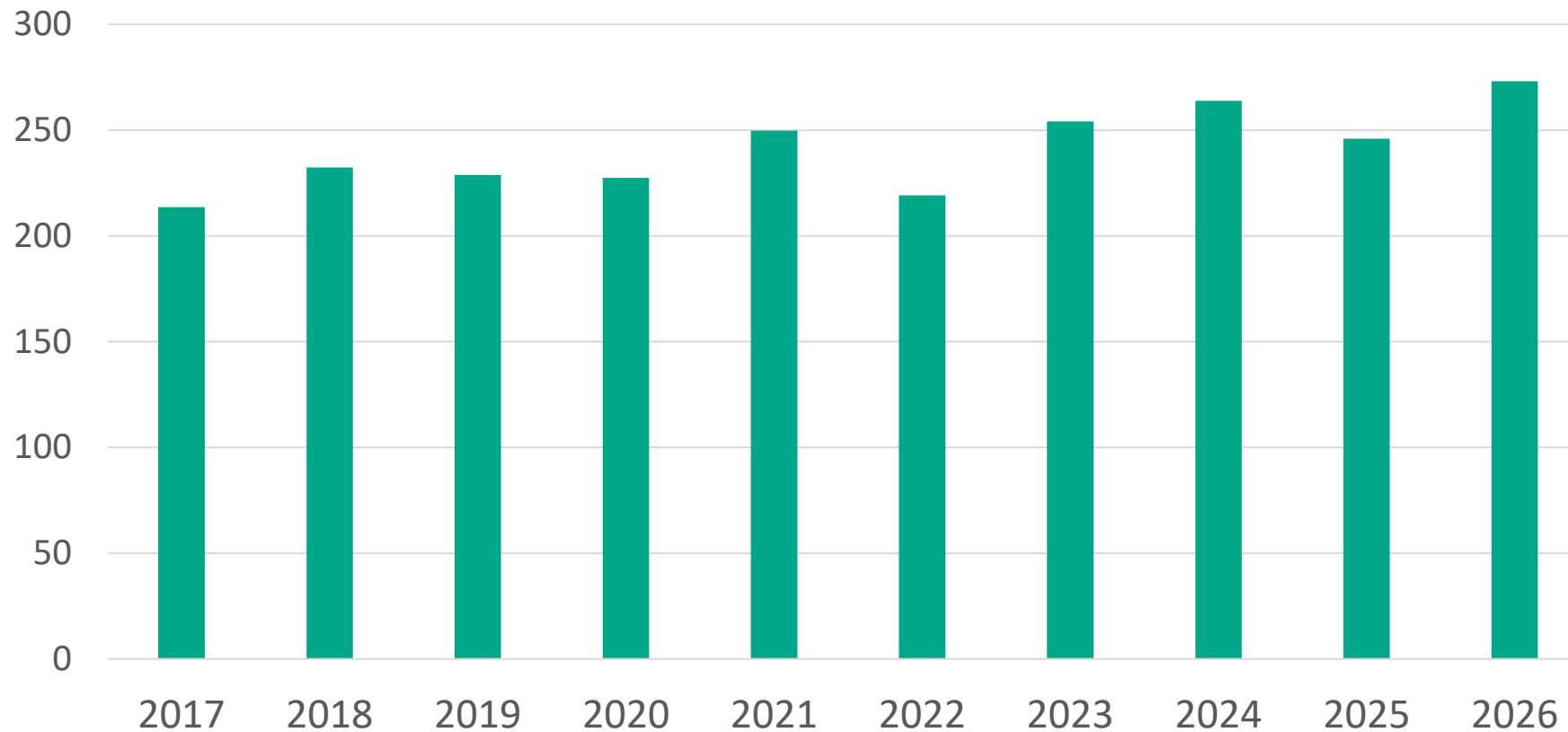
JOBSEEKERS (GREY)
593 (+15)

UNEMPLOYMENT RATES

NZ	GREY
5.3%	4.7%

GREY DISTRICT VISITOR SPENDING

ECONOMIC UPDATE



SPENDING
\$273.1m

2026 vs 2025
+\$27.2m

YE MAR 2026

FUEL CRISIS

ECONOMIC UPDATE



Te Ohu Whakawhanake o Te Tai Poutini

- Fuel costs hitting core sectors (farming, mining, freight)
- Freight costs rising and flowing through to prices
- Uptake increasing for business mentoring and support services



SUPPORTING THE COAST

DWC UPDATE



- Richmond Quay Development
- Regional Infrastructure Fund (RIF)
- Nature Economy Partnership
- Vocational Education
- Workforce Development & Housing Initiatives
- Investment attraction
- Energy Action Group & Enerlytica Report



UPCOMING EVENTS

DWC UPDATE

- Mining information sessions
(Westport: 23 June; Greymouth TBC)
- Adapting to Change workshops
(Online: 24 June)
- Tourism Hui (27 August)
- Leading Light Awards (24 September)



Te Ohu Whakawhanake o Te Tai Poutini



An aerial photograph of a coastal area. On the left, a sandy beach meets the ocean with white waves. A road runs along the coast. To the right of the road is a residential area with many houses. Further right is a large body of water, possibly a lagoon or wetland, with a winding road and some vegetation. In the background, there are large, forested hills under a blue sky with scattered clouds.

QUESTIONS?

The logo for Development West Coast features a stylized white mountain range above the text.

DEVELOPMENT
WEST COAST

Te Ohu Whakawhanake o Te Tai Poutini