

## WARM HEARTED PEOPLE

Perhaps it is the closeness to nature, the tough work in the early industries, or the need for a small population to look after its own, but Coast mythology has created its own character – a rugged individual, someone who will give something a try, who is hospitable, likes to flaunt authority, and knows how to have a good time.

- Less than 1% of the NZ population lives on the Coast
- Known affectionately as ‘Coasters’
- More than 200 clubs and recreational interest groups
- Total crime rates are decreasing every year and are well below the national averages
- Active Civil Defence organisation
- The Census night population was 31,326 with about 500 more males than females

In 2006 there were 64 police and CIB officers working from 9 stations from Karamea to Haast, the largest being Greymouth with 27 officers.



## CLIMATE

The region has a temperate climate, days of sun and bright clear light, good rainfall, high sunshine hours and few extremes of weather. Summer temperatures range from 17°C to 22°C, winter daytime maximums range from 10°C to 14°C. Greymouth has 1,980 sunshine hours a year, Hokitika has 1,850 - Auckland has 1,825. Rainfall in the mountains can exceed 8,000 mm annually, with about 2,000 mm at the Coast. Karamea enjoys an almost sub tropical climate.



*Development West Coast supports the DARE (Drug Alcohol Resistance Education) programme and Life Education Trust (Health Education in schools).*