PEP – Public Engagement Projects – helps organisations work through difficult issues in ways that lead to better decisions, increased trust and improved relationships.

This is achieved through better listening to relevant publics for information, perspectives and common ground.

PEP specialises in public engagement processes on complex issues using small- and large-scale dialogue and deliberation in both face-to-face and online settings.

PEP is recognised for its work in online engagement and its use of the artificial intelligence-enhanced Polis platform for large-scale processes and for its structured, in-depth, online deliberation processes with small groups. RNZ Mediawatch interviewed PEP about Polis on 25 June 2017.

Our engagement services include strategy and planning, information provision, face-to-face and online processes, analysis, reporting and evaluation.

Beyond public engagement, PEP uses approaches and tools relevant to the issue from the social sciences, decision-making, collaboration, public engagement, youth development and social innovation. This ensures that the right questions are being asked about the right things.

For example, PEP has expertise in socio-technological transitions in areas such as transport/mobility and resource management. Historically, transitions for these critical systems have taken 30 to 50 years. The use of frameworks such as the multi-level perspective enables a better understanding of why such systems are resistant to change while providing insights on how to co-create the desired future more rapidly. PEP presented on the multi-level perspective to IPENZ’s Wellington Transport Group on 22 September 2017.

- Social science frameworks such as the multi-level perspective and transition management
- Small and large scale public engagement based on dialogue and deliberation
- Online engagement for insightful mass participation and deep small-group deliberation
- Youth participation
- Qualitative research and analysis
- Evaluations and audits

PEP – Public Engagement Projects – is a Wellington-based consultancy. Its partners, John Pennington and Simon Wright, have a track record of innovative and internationally recognised projects for central and local government, and business.

PEP is able to call on a range of experienced engagement and social science professionals for complex and large projects.

Please contact Simon or John for further information or visit PEP’s website.