

CRCC and ClayTAWC are actively considering the funding for next stage. If the feasibility process brings forward a viable plan, then it could be a good candidate for LEADER or Awards For All funding.

### Key areas of learning

- Feasibility process has given focus and structure to discussions within ClayTAWC regarding future plans and capacities. In particular, it has encouraged the active involvement of the Board to engage in the feasibility process.
- The support provider has reflected that when issues are complex, particularly if people or governance issues are involved, that the short term nature of VSOS support can simply expose issues without the capacity to then take the necessary next steps with the community. Consultees have stated that this can be counter-productive, as it will simply expose an issue and lead to frustration, if the means to deal with the issue are not available.
- Mentors have not yet been used by the support provider, they are interested in the idea, but need to be convinced it will work in practice.

## Training Kitchen and Café Clay TAWC Case Study



Image from [www.claytawc.co.uk](http://www.claytawc.co.uk)

Evaluation prepared for Big Lottery Fund by Catalys Ltd  
Reporting on delivery of Village SOS (VSOS) Learning,  
Outreach and Engagement Campaign

1st December 2014 to 1st September 2015

Campaign Lead partners: Action for Communities in Rural  
England (ACRE), Rocket Science and Rose Regeneration

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## Summary

The Challenge	To develop a training kitchen and café appropriate to the needs of a small rural community, which would provide non-formal training and confidence building for those who find it hard to access the employment market. The kitchen would help local people to build confidence in order to access the labour market or formal training, with a particular focus on the tourism sector.
The Activity	Cornwall Rural Community Charity (CRCC) provided a Plan of Support which includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A study of the feasibility of a new training kitchen and café facility at ClayTAWC premises in St Dennis.</li> <li>• A structured process and timescale to engage key stakeholders.</li> </ul>
How Village SOS added value	The community organisation appreciate the structure and focus that VSOS has provided. The intended result of the project will be to provide the ideas and evidence base for a realistic funding proposal.

## The challenge

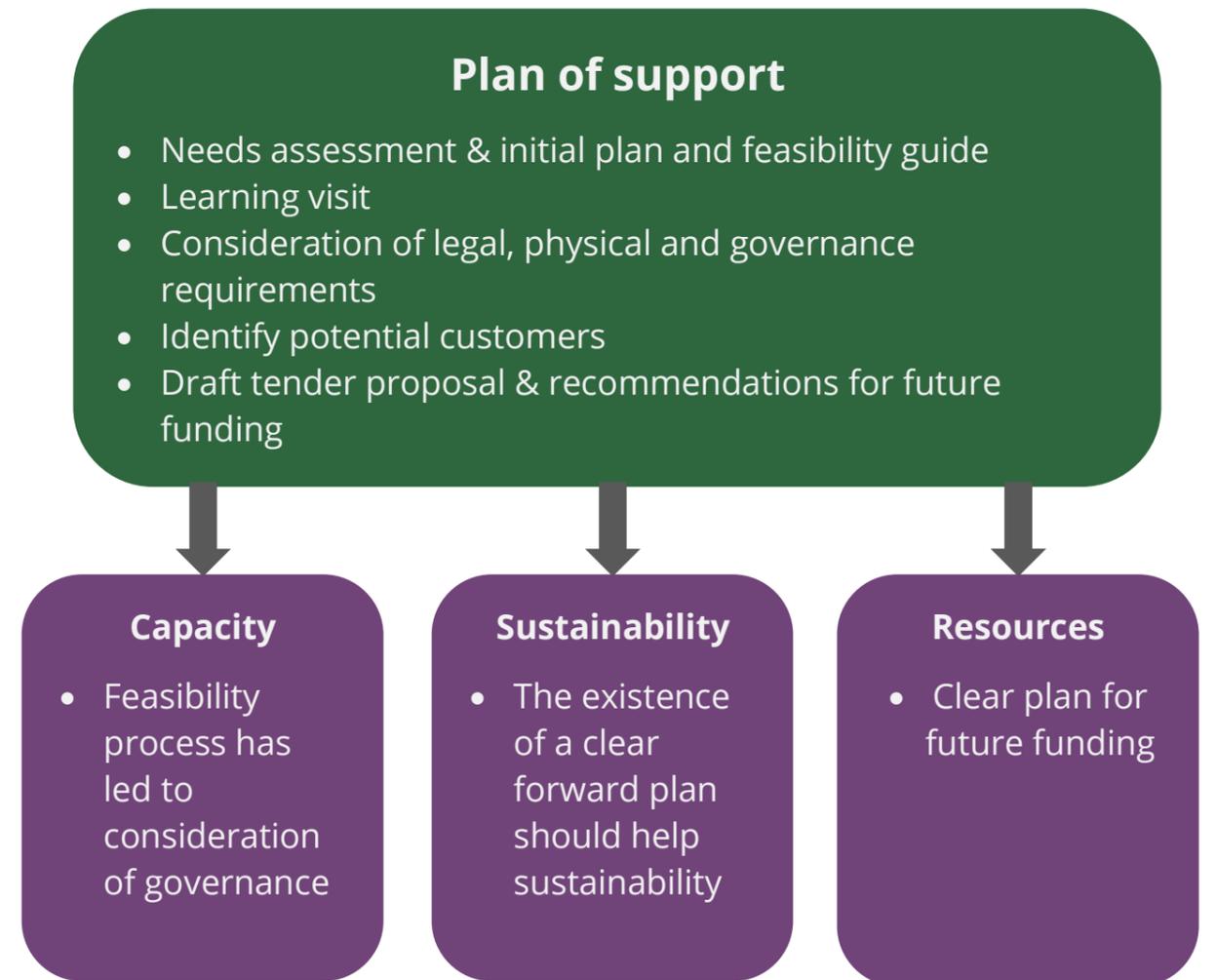
ClayTAWC (Clay Training and Work Centre) is based at St Dennis, and serves a local population within the Clay area by providing a community hub and training centre. The Clay area has relied heavily on the China Clay industry in the past and is undergoing long-term changes as the industry has declined. Consequently, families who were formerly supported in the sector are looking for new livelihoods.

The tourism/hospitality industry offers an opportunity for future employment and ClayTAWC wishes to explore using their facilities to provide training and other means of support for helping local people to gain confidence and improve livelihoods. A multi functioning training kitchen and café of a professional standard would offer training opportunities for local people including a project working with young people who are Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEETs). The project requires consideration to be given to redeveloping space within the existing premises, or a potential extension to the building.

## Who's involved?

ClayTAWC has been aware of Village SOS for over three years (i.e., from well before its current phase) and were therefore aware of support it might be able to offer them. So when Cornwall Rural Community Council (CRCC) mentioned that the current VSOS campaign might help them in exploring the potential of their ideas for a training café they were aware of how

it may help. ClayTAWC has involved its Board Members (who include Cornwall Councillors) and its landlords, the Arundel Trust.



## Action and activities

The starting point for the VSOS support was the development of a feasibility guide, which set out the questions to be addressed as part of the support process and for which answers would hopefully be captured in order to inform the next stage of the project. The feasibility guide set out questions under the following headings:

- Community café operation, use etc.
- Training provision
- The organisation – risks, operation, financial, staffing etc.

The physical facility/building The feasibility guide was used in conjunction with the plan of support, with the plan of support providing the timetable and specific steps through which the feasibility questions would be asked. For instance, the plan of support scheduled a proposed visit to another similar facility at the most appropriate time, so that ClayTAWC were able to learn lessons from best practice elsewhere at the point when it was likely to be of most benefit to the project. Cornwall College, as a local training provider of formal courses, is very interested in outreach and if ClayTAWC is successful, it could offer a next stage/continuation for trainees.