

Invitation to Tender – Film Producers/Makers

NKBL Mark’s Story 10 Years On: Contract 2026-27

Tender Amount £32,000

[YouthLink Scotland](#)

YouthLink Scotland is the national agency for youth work and the collective voice for the sector in Scotland. We champion and advocate for the youth work sector so that all young people can access high-quality youth work. Our membership of voluntary and statutory youth work organisations and intermediaries, including every local authority, spans all of Scotland, and changes lives for the better every day.

YouthLink Scotland runs the [No Knives, Better Lives](#) programme, which works in partnership with young people and practitioners to understand and address the drivers of youth violence.

Project Purpose and Intended Impact

It has now been ten years since the release of *Mark’s Story: One Knife, Many Victims*. Over that decade the film has become a widely used prevention resource across education, youth work, and community safety settings. Practitioners consistently report that the story provides a powerful and accessible way to start conversations with young people about knife carrying and its consequences.

The original film has already demonstrated its reach and longevity, receiving over 100,000 views online and continuing to be used by practitioners a decade after its release. The involvement of individuals connected to the original production, including Connor Newall (Jimmy Sh*te in *28 Years Later: The Bone Temple*), whose story has since gained wider public recognition, also reinforces the authenticity and relatability that made the original resource so impactful with young audiences.

The proposed project revisits Mark’s story ten years on. By reflecting on the long-term consequences of the original events, the new films aim to deepen understanding of how a single decision to carry a knife can affect not only those directly involved, but also families, communities, and the individual responsible.

The project will produce **three complementary films**:

1/ A longer narrative film exploring the story ten years later, focusing on the lasting impact of the incident and showing potential consequences (10 - 20 minutes)

2/ 2 x shorter educational edits (with 2 different endings and under 5 minutes)

designed for use in classrooms, youth groups, and prevention workshops.

These formats ensure that resources remains **practical and adaptable for professionals working directly with young people.**

3/ We are offering the option of filming a **Behind the Scenes** at the film makers discretion for **a further £2,000** (in addition to the £32,000 tender) if this is something they feel they can accomplish. This would be to capture some of the process of filming and involving young people in the film making.

We want the **original Mark's Story film** referenced in either a straightforward way or as an edit (flashback etc.) to ensure connectivity to the original narrative.

We are open to creative suggestions as to how to ensure connection and flow from the original storyline to the new storyline.

Contextual Viewing Material

Behind the scenes [Mark's Story: One Knife. Many Victims - Behind The Scenes.](#)

Long form version <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FvC884FdpqM> **113,287** views
Mar 16, 2015

Short form version (without the baby at the end) [Mark's Story: One Knife. Many Victims. \(3 minute edit\)](#) **26,424** views Feb 5, 2016

Expected Outcomes and Benefits

The project aims to deliver several key outcomes:

- **Strengthening prevention messaging** by updating a well-established educational resource.
- **Supporting practitioners** with high-quality, relatable content that can anchor discussions around risk, responsibility, and consequences.
- **Engaging new generations of young people** who were not reached by the original film.
- **Encouraging reflection and behavioural awareness**, helping young people understand how knife carrying can create many victims.

Story-based approaches have proven particularly effective in prevention work because they connect emotionally with audiences, making the consequences of decisions more tangible than abstract messaging alone.

Prevention Value

The value of this project lies in its ability to support **early intervention and education**. Rather than responding after harm has occurred, the films provide a tool to help young people reflect on choices before they become involved in violence.

Over the past decade, *Mark's Story: One Knife, Many Victims* has demonstrated that storytelling can be a powerful prevention tool. Revisiting the story ten years on builds on an already proven resource, strengthens its relevance for today's audiences, and ensures practitioners continue to have effective materials to support conversations about knife crime and its far-reaching consequences.

The central message remains unchanged: **one knife can create many victims, and the work to prevent that must continue**.

Tender Amount £32,000

The **£32,000** allocated for the creation of the films covers the full production process, from development through to final delivery. This should include:

Pre-production – concept development, scriptwriting, research and consultation with practitioners, scheduling, casting, location planning, and production management. (NKBL has further funds to support justice experienced young people to take part in this process i.e. payment for youth workers/support workers for young people in Youth Offenders Institute).

Production / filming – professional filming over multiple days, including director and crew, camera and lighting equipment, sound recording, locations, transport, and talent costs where applicable.

Post-production – editing of the films (a longer narrative version and 2 x shorter educational edits, sound design, colour grading, graphics, subtitling, and accessibility adjustments).

Distribution and format preparation – formatting for different platforms (education settings, online, presentations), licensing, and final mastering.

Your Tender Proposal:

Your proposal should clearly set out the following:

- Your understanding of the NKBL programme and the reach and value of Mark's Story and how your proposed activities meet the brief
- Your proposed approach to; **pre-production, production/filming, post-production, and formatting/distribution** (including your rationale)
- A detailed programme of activity including timelines
- Provide an example of good practice from a previous piece of work where you have produced educational/community benefit film materials
- Your commitment and approach to ensuring that the final products are of high quality and are delivered on time

Administrative Arrangements

YouthLink Scotland as the commissioning body for this project will complete final payment on satisfactory completion of the contract, or at a time agreed to be mutually acceptable by all partners.

Budget

The budget for the school's engagement contract is **£32,000** inclusive of VAT.

An extra **£2,000** (inclusive of VAT) is available for a documentary/behind the scenes film edit.

Timeline

- Deadline for receipt of proposals – 20 May 2026
- Applicants informed of outcome of tender process – 27 May 2026
- Briefing meeting with successful applicant – w/c June 2026
- Pre-production TBD
- Production/Filming TBD
- Post-production TBD
- Formatting/Distribution TBD
- All work completed end January 2027

Intellectual Property

All materials will be owned by the funder for public purpose and will be shared without cost and for non-profit making purposes. Contributors can share and utilise materials but cannot charge for their use or profit from their use. In sharing materials partners must acknowledge YouthLink Scotland and Scottish Government.

Next steps

Please submit a proposal in **electronic format** and via email to the contact details below, by **5pm on the 20th May 2026**

Proposals should be no more than 10 pages in length and should outline your proposed approach and cost breakdown for the project, and suitability for the tender.

Proposals will be scored using the following criteria:

Priority	Maximum Score
Understanding of the brief	25
Proposed approach	25
Value for money	25
Skills and experience of those involved	25

Contact Details

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