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MA250: 5,000 pubs and bars to be lost by 2017, according to CGA Strategy

By Mark Wingett, 04-Oct-2012

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The UK's pub and bar sector will lose another circa 5,000 sites by 2017, with the shape and nature of the trading environment set to be "very different" in five years' time, according to CGA Strategy

CEO Jon Collins said that the sector will shrink, but at a slower rate, with closures led by wet-led pubs, social clubs and guest houses.

Conversely, new-wave bars and premium community venues will continue to open. The leased and tenanted sector will shrink but strengthen over the next five years, driven by disposals and new ways of working.

Collins said the number of community pubs in the UK will fall to 26,280 by 2017 (2010: 31,672), while food-led pubs will climb to 12,024 sites (2010: 11,235).

Modern bars will see a rise from 5,273 in 2010 to 5,727 in 2017, but circuit bars will fall from just above 10,000 units to 9,309 sites in the next five years.

CGA predicts that by 2017 the market would consume 2.6m fewer hectolitres of beer. Collins said: "Total beer volume will decline by 7.1% from 2011 to 2017."

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