The C4C survey, an international survey on-going in 25 countries, is being undertaken by the European Federation of Associations of Families of People with Mental Illness (EUFAMI), in collaboration with LUCAS, the centre for care research and consultancy at the University of Leuven.

Initial results are based on more than 400 respondents, providing evidence of the continuing burden of caring for those living with schizophrenia and highlighting the contribution that carers make and the overwhelming impact this has on their own lives.

Almost 1 in 5 carers of those living with schizophrenia look after more than one person with mental health problems.

6 out of 10 carers of those living with schizophrenia battle feelings of being unable to cope with the constant anxiety of caring.

Nearly half (46%) of those living with schizophrenia express a degree of dissatisfaction with the support received from medical/healthcare staff.

A third of carers of those living with schizophrenia are concerned about the burden that caring places on their finances.

90% of carers of those living with schizophrenia say they want more support.

1 in 7 carers of people living with schizophrenia are unable to take a break from caring.

50% say they cannot plan for the future.

38% feel they are not being taken seriously.

44% are unsatisfied with their ability to influence important decisions in treatment and care planning.