The eviction of a 14-year-old girl from a Territory Housing unit in the Narrows late yesterday raises serious questions about the Henderson Government’s capacity to protect the vulnerable members of society.

Member for Fong Lim David Tollner said the eviction of 14-year-old Rachael Pazos just days after the death of her father marked a new low-point in the operations of Territory Housing.

Mr Tollner said Housing Minister Rob Knight has serious questions to answer about the way Rachael’s case has been handled so far and what happens moving forward.

“I notice Minister Knight sent a senior bureaucrat to front the media to admit this was all a terrible mistake,” Mr Tollner said.

“The Minister shouldn’t be hiding behind the bureaucracy. He should be leading from the front and explaining exactly how this terrible circumstance was allowed to occur.

“The Minister must commit to the immediate public release of the report into Rachael’s eviction and also release Territory Housing’s policies for dealing with tenancies where there has been bereavement.

“I would expect this to go someway towards explaining how the Department operates and how such an appalling situation was allowed to occur.

“He must also explain exactly why it was left to me, as the Local Member, to communicate details of Rachael’s case with Family and Children’s Services, what other Government agencies if any were notified and why it was a teenage girl was left unattended by Territory Housing with her possessions by the barricaded flat.

“FACS must also explain what it has done since Rachael’s case was referred to it late Wednesday.

“Reports in this morning’s media indicate Rachael’s eviction isn’t an isolated incident. Rob Knight must reveal exactly how many other minors have been evicted in similar circumstances and identify other similar administrative failings by the Department.

Further comment: David Tollner 0414 890 109