CHARACTERISTICS AND COMPETENCIES OF DPRD MEMBERS TO SUPPORT GOOD GOVERNANCE IN THE REGION

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Abstract
This paper aims to examine the characteristics and competencies of members of the Regional Representatives Council (DPRD) in supporting good governance in the region. This research uses a normative juridical method with a document study approach as a data collection technique. The main focus of the research is on the characteristics, competencies, and behavioural patterns of DPRD members required to support the principles of good governance, such as transparency, accountability, and community participation. The results show that the ideal DPRD member must have high integrity, good communication skills, and a deep understanding of public policy. In addition, open and inclusive communication patterns and the use of information technology are essential to increase public participation in the legislative process. The findings are expected to provide recommendations for improving the quality of DPRD members in carrying out their functions and encouraging active community participation in public decision-making.

Keywords: DPRD, good governance, integrity, community participation.

INTRODUCTION

In the context of local government in Indonesia, members of the Regional People's Representative Council (DPRD) play a very important role in realising good governance (Ardipandanto et al., 2020). Good governance is a concept that includes basic principles such as transparency, accountability, and community participation in public decision-making (Solikhudin, 2021). These principles form the basis for every policy taken by local governments, and DPRD members have a responsibility to ensure that these policies reflect the interests and aspirations of the people they represent.

As a regional legislative body, the DPRD has three main functions, namely: 1) Legislation, where the DPRD is authorised to make regional regulations (Perda) together with the regional head; 2) Budgeting, where the DPRD is authorised to set the Regional Budget (APBD) together with the local government; and 3) Supervision, where DPRDs have the authority to control the implementation of local regulations, APBDs, and local government policies (Indartini et al., 2019). In carrying out their functions, DPRD members not only act as lawmakers, but also as supervisors and mediators between the government and the community. This confirms that DPRD members are expected to contribute significantly to improving the quality of public services and making better decisions.

Suwanda and Piliang revealed that there are still many challenges faced by DPRD members in carrying out their duties effectively, including a lack of human resource capacity, limited access to information, and low public participation in the legislative process. Therefore, it is important to explore the ideal model of DPRD members that can support the creation of good governance in the regions (Suwanda & Piliang, 2016).

This research aims to identify and analyse the characteristics and competencies required by DPRD members in the context of good governance. Specifically, the objectives of this research are formulated as follows:
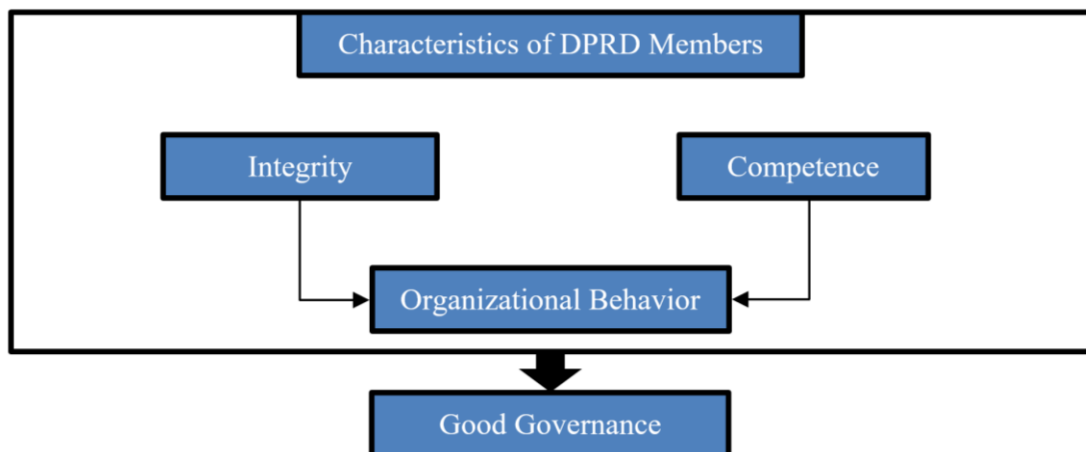
1. To identify the ideal characteristics of DPRD members in the context of good governance.
2. To analyse the competencies required by DPRD members to perform their functions effectively.
3. To find behavioural patterns that can increase public participation in the legislative process

The hypothesis proposed is that DPRD members who have high integrity and good communication skills will be more effective in realising good governance in the region.

This research is expected to contribute significantly to the understanding of the ideal model of DPRD members in supporting good governance. The results of this research can also serve as a reference for policymakers and political parties in selecting qualified DPRD candidates. In addition, the contribution of this research also includes practical recommendations that can be implemented by DPRDs in increasing public participation in the legislative process.

The conceptual framework of this study illustrates the relationship between the characteristics of local legislators as the independent variable and the principles of good governance as the dependent variable. In this context, the ideal characteristics of DPRD members include elements such as integrity, competence, and communication behaviour, all of which contribute to the creation of good governance in the region.

The following diagram illustrates the conceptual framework of this study:

The diagram above shows that the characteristics of DPRD members (integrity, competence, and communication behaviour) are interconnected and contribute directly to the creation of good governance in the regions. By having high integrity, adequate competence, and good communication behaviour, DPRD members can perform their functions effectively in representing the interests of the community and ensuring that public policies are transparent and accountable.

LITERATURE REVIEW

In this study, there are two main theories that form the basis for understanding the ideal model of DPRD members in realising good governance, namely the theory of public accountability and the theory of community participation.

Public Accountability Theory

Public accountability theory explains the importance of accountability in the management of public resources and the implementation of policies by government. In the context of DPRDs, accountability includes the obligation of DPRD members to explain and account for their actions and decisions to the public. According to Purnomo, public accountability can be seen as a relationship between power holders and the public, where power holders must provide reports and explanations of their actions (Purnomo, 2016).

DPRD members who have high integrity will be more likely to act transparently and accountably, thereby increasing public trust in the legislature. Research by Maihendro shows that good accountability in legislative decision-making contributes to improving the quality of public services (Maihendro et al., 2020).

Theory of Community Participation

The theory of community participation emphasises the importance of community involvement in the political and public policy decision-making process. Community participation not only increases the legitimacy of policies, but also ensures that policies reflect the needs and aspirations of the community. According to Arnstein, community participation can be categorised into different levels, ranging from manipulation to full participation in decision-making (Arnstein, 1969).

In the context of DPRDs, good communication behaviour from DPRD members is essential to encourage community participation. Research by Holilah & Ismail shows that DPRD members who actively communicate with their constituents are able to increase community participation in the legislative process (Holilah & Ismail, 2023).

This literature review includes research on the role of DPRD members and good governance that is relevant to the theme of this research. Some of the studies used as references include:

1. Mohamad Khamim wrote a book entitled The Role of DPRD in Realising Good Governance in the Region which discusses the role of DPRD in realising good governance in the region (Khamim, 2021).
2. Research by Taufiq Yuli Purnama, et al. examined the Implementation of the DPRD Supervisory Function in realising Good Governance, revealing that the DPRD supervisory function is carried out by the Commission by reviewing, studying and evaluating continuously the implementation of public policies (Purnama et al., 2023).
3. Nurochman's research on the Role of DPRD in Building Good and Authoritative Government has revealed that each DPRD member has tried to carry out the orders of laws and regulations as well as possible in accordance with the interests of the

community, they also always try to maximise the roles that have been outlined by juridical norms (Nurochman, 2021).

With reference to these theories and the results of previous research, this study aims to provide a deeper understanding of the ideal model of DPRD members in supporting good governance in the region. Characteristics such as integrity and communication skills are expected to improve legislative effectiveness and encourage public participation in the decision-making process.

METHOD

This research uses normative juridical method with document study as data collection technique. The normative juridical method focuses on analysing the applicable legal norms and their application (Irwansyah, 2022) in the context of the duties and functions of DPRD members in realising good governance in the regions. The data collection technique is conducted through document analysis that includes several important sources, including laws and regulations governing the duties and functions of DPRDs, DPRD performance reports, and academic literature that discusses good governance and the role of legislature.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION
Characteristics that should be possessed by DPRD members

The results show that there are several important characteristics that must be possessed by DPRD members to realise the principles of good governance. Firstly, integrity is the most fundamental characteristic. Council members with high integrity will be better able to maintain public trust and ensure that decisions made reflect public interest, rather than personal or group interests. This includes honesty, ethics, and a commitment to act in public interest. Research by Muhammad Amin shows that public accountability is strongly influenced by individual integrity in legislative decision-making (Amin, 2021).

Second, professional competence is also a very important characteristic for DPRD members. This includes an in-depth knowledge of the law, public policy, and social issues relevant to the community. Council members must have good analytical skills to understand and evaluate policies and their impact on the community. In addition, effective communication skills are necessary for councillors to build good relationships with their constituents and convey information clearly. Holilah emphasised that good communication skills enable DPRD members to increase community participation in the legislative process (Holilah & Ismail, 2023).

Third, the ability to adapt and innovate in the face of social and political challenges is also an ideal characteristic that should be possessed by DPRD members. In the context of rapid societal change, DPRD members need to be able to develop new strategies and innovative solutions to problems faced by the community. This includes the ability to listen to the aspirations of the community through discussion forums and public consultations, and to apply this feedback in decision-making. Research by Adianto and Hasim As'ari shows that active community participation in the legislative process can increase the legitimacy of

public policies, encouraging DPRD members to be more responsive to the needs of their constituents (Adianto & As'ari, 2016).

Analysis of Competencies Required by Members of Parliament to Function Effectively

There are several key competencies that must be possessed by DPRD members in order to function optimally. Firstly, knowledge of law and public policy is a fundamental competency. Councillors need to understand laws and regulations, government policies, and social issues relevant to the community. This knowledge enables them to make informed, data-driven decisions and avoid mistakes in legislation. As Nur and Arjuna point out, an in-depth understanding of law and policy is critical to improving the effectiveness of decision-making at the legislative level (Nur & Arjuna, 2024).

Secondly, analytical and problem-solving skills are also essential competencies for DPRD members. In the face of complex challenges and issues, councillors must be able to analyse situations carefully and develop innovative solutions. This includes not only analysing statistical data but also the ability to understand the social and political dynamics that affect society. Hermayanti emphasised that DPRD members who have good analytical skills can be more effective in formulating policies that meet the needs of the community and address existing problems (Hermayanti, 2015).

Third, communication skills are another important competency for DPRD members. DPRD members must be able to communicate clearly and effectively, both in conveying information to constituents and in interacting with legislative colleagues and other stakeholders. Good communication skills will help DPRD members explain policies, listen to people's aspirations, and build constructive relationships with various parties. Sukarno pointed out that effective communication can increase public participation in the legislative process, resulting in more legitimate and responsive public policies (Sukarno, 2021).

Behavioural Patterns of DPRD Members that Can Increase Public Participation in the Legislative Process

The research findings show that there are several patterns of behaviour that are effective in encouraging community involvement. Firstly, open and inclusive communication is key. DPRD members need to actively communicate with their constituents through various channels, such as discussion forums, social media, and direct meetings. By creating spaces for people to express their opinions and aspirations, DPRD members can build closer relationships with constituents. This is in line with research by Syauket which shows that effective communication can increase public trust in DPRD members and encourage active participation in the legislative process (Syauket et al., 2024).

Second, the use of information technology is also a behavioural pattern that can increase public participation. Council members can utilise digital platforms to disseminate information on policies and legislative processes. For example, through official websites or mobile applications, DPRD members can provide updates on meeting agendas, decisions, and space for the public to provide feedback online. This not only makes information more accessible but also allows the public to be directly involved in the decision-making process.

Hikmat's research emphasises that the use of information technology can expand the reach of communication and increase public participation in the legislative process (Hikmat, 2018).

Third, a pattern of direct involvement in community activities is also very important. Council members should not only function as policy makers but also as facilitators for the community. By engaging in community activities, such as seminars, workshops, or social events, councillors can listen directly to the needs and expectations of the community. This pattern of behaviour not only strengthens the relationship between DPRD members and constituents but also provides an opportunity for the community to feel they have a stake in the legislative process (Suwanda & Piliang, 2016). In this way, community participation not only increases but also results in policies that are more relevant and responsive to local needs.

CLOSING
Conclusion

The conclusion of this study shows that in order to achieve good governance in the region, members of the Regional Representatives Council (DPRD) need to possess ideal characteristics such as high integrity, professional competence that includes knowledge of law and public policy, and good analytical skills. In addition, the research also identified that the competencies required to effectively perform the functions of DPRDs include good communication skills and problem-solving abilities. Finally, the behavioural patterns of DPRD members that can enhance community participation in the legislative process include open and inclusive communication, use of information technology, and direct involvement in community activities. By integrating these three aspects, it is hoped that DPRD members can be more responsive to the needs of their constituents and realise the principles of good governance in the region.

Sugession and Recommendation

Based on the results of the research conducted, there are several suggestions and recommendations that can be implemented to improve the effectiveness of DPRD members in realising good governance. First, it is recommended that members of local councils consistently improve their integrity and accountability through training and continuing education. These programmes could focus on public ethics, transparency in decision-making, and ways to build public trust. By strengthening their integrity, DPRD members will be better able to maintain the trust of their constituents and ensure that their decisions reflect public interest.

Secondly, to improve professional competence, councillors should have better access to information and resources relating to law and public policy. This recommendation includes the provision of relevant training materials and support from legislative experts or practitioners. In addition, it is important for DPRD members to network with research institutes or universities to obtain in-depth data and analyses on social issues faced by the community. By doing so, they can make decisions that are more informed and responsive to the needs of the community.

Third, in order to increase public participation in the legislative process, it is recommended that DPRD members develop more open and inclusive communication patterns. This includes the use of information technology to widely disseminate information related to policies and the legislative process. DPRD members should also actively engage in community activities through discussion forums, public consultations, and other social events. In this way, they can not only listen to people's aspirations but also build stronger relationships with their constituents. This will encourage active community participation in decision-making and increase the legitimacy of public policies.

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