

## Politics podcast: Darren Chester on the Nationals' success

Written by Michelle Grattan, Professorial Fellow, University of Canberra

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By increasing their numbers within the government, the Nationals were the surprise success story of the election, with a very locally focused campaign. The infrastructure and transport minister, Darren Chester, tells Michelle Grattan the presidential style of campaigning that is becoming more prevalent in Australia doesn't suit the Nationals.

"We don't necessarily benefit from that style of campaigning. That's no criticism of our Coalition partners. It's just that they tend to focus on the metropolitan seats where the leader of the day gets a lot of media coverage. Our media coverage and our profile comes through the local newspapers in small country towns, the local ABC or the local commercial television news service," he says.

*Michelle Grattan does not work for, consult, own shares in or receive funding from any company or organisation that would benefit from this article, and has disclosed no relevant affiliations beyond the academic appointment above.*

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